HAD YOUR "JOHN BULL" PEN YET? Coupon on page 11.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXIX. No. 774. SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1921. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

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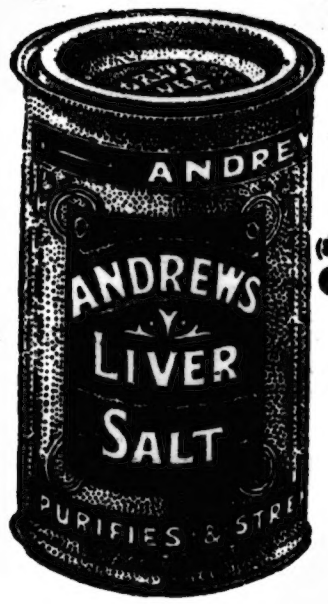
NATURE'S BODY-BUILDING FOOD.

Andrews Liver Salt is the homely family medicine which all well people need occasionally! Its purpose is to maintain functional regularity—

10½d. USUAL (4-OZ.) SIZE. FAMILY (8-OZ.) SIZE 1/6



(6A)

Functional *irregularity* starts the minor Ills. From them the big ones grow. Maintain functional regularity, and bright, cheery, *buoyant Health* is yours, naturally.

You can maintain *functional regularity*, pleasantly and easily, by using Andrews' Liver Salt when the system is disturbed. A teaspoonful in a glass of water for three or four mornings running, *whenever required*, will cleanse the Stomach, liven up the Liver, regulate the Bowels, and stimulate the Kidneys. Andrews has been helping *well people* to *keep well* for more than a quarter of a Century.

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HUGE CLEARANCE SALE

£50,000 worth of Government Surplus Stocks and Job Lots, Military, Naval and Civilian Stores, Post Office and Police Clothing, etc., to clear at LESS than pre-war prices (sold in single articles or in any quantity).

All Carriage Paid.

Army Grey Socks (all Wool) ...	2/-	Army Kit Bags	2/-
Army Hospital Shirts	3/9	Infantry or A.S.C. Belts	2/-
Cardigan Jackets (Wool)	10/6	Army Razors	2/-
Khaki Kilts (7 yards material) ...	20/-	Army Jack Knives...	2/-
Post Office Capes	8/6	Large Carriage Sponges	1/6
New Army Towels...	1/6	Army Combs & Shaving Brushes	9d. each
Army Leather Waistcoats	10/-	Sou'-wester Hats	2/9
Cavalry or A.S.C. Coats	20/-	New Roller Towels	2/6
Police Capes (Wool lined)	10/-	Infantry Great Coats	20/-
Khaki Collars	6d., 3 for 1/-	Army Shirts (all Wool)...	10/-
Army Puttees, Khaki or Grey ...	2/9	Civilian Socks...	1/3
Army Rubber Ground Sheets ...	4/-	New Underpants	4/6
Boiler Suit Overalls	10/-	New Singlets	4/6 & 6/-
Large Bath Towels	3/9	Printed Art Bedspreads	7/6
New Army Blankets	15/-	Granville Shirts	5/6
Part Worn Army Blankets	8/-	Long Oilskin Coats	10/6
Heavy White Blankets (soiled) ...	6/3	Oilskin Trousers	8/-
Army Body Belts	1/9	Large Carpet Squares	12/-
White Wool Blankets	18/-	New Wool Gloves	2/6
Khaki Riding Breeches...	10/6	Navy Leggings (part worn)	2/6
New Khaki Trousers	15/-	Large Tapestry Table Covers ...	10/-
Part Worn Army Trousers	7/6	Large White Table Cloths	6/6
Canadian Brown Boots...	16/-	New Bolster Cases...	1/6
New Army Boots	20/-	Pillow Cases ... Plain, 1/-; Frilled,	1/6
Civilian Boots...	15/-	Glass Cloths ... ... 1/-; half doz.	5/-
White or Coloured Quilts	10/6	Coloured Table Covers	2/3
Counterpanes	4/6	White Damask Table Covers ...	3/3
Bedspreads	8/-	White Calico ... 1/- yard; 6 yards	5/-
Hospital Bed size Sheets	5/-	New Leather Leggings	12/6
Twill Sheets (full size)	6/3	Simulation Eiderdown Quilts ...	14/-
New Bed Ticks...	9/6	New Hearthrugs	4/6
Soiled Counterpanes	4/6	Military Grey New Shirts	8/6
New Silver Grey Blankets	6/6	New Wool Carriage Rugs	20/-
New Braces ... ... 10d.	3 pairs 2/-	New Khaki Handkerchiefs	8d.
New Army Leather Rug Straps ...	1/3	Army Boots (repaired)	10/6
Army Haversacks	1/6	Army Tunics (Khaki)	8/9
		Army Woollen Scarves...	1/6

All Carriage Paid.

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WAREHOUSES: YORK ST, LAVENDER ST., RUTLAND ST, & DRAKE ST., HULME MANCHESTER

Send orders to Surplus Dept. No. 21.

The Perfect Safety Razor for 5/-

The Little Barber in a Box.

THE 'Ever-Ready' Safety Razor is all that the name implies, and *more*. *No* Safety Razor ought to cost more than 5/- because we make the *perfect* 'Ever-Ready' that gives you a shave cleaner and smoother than any barber can give you. The 'Ever-Ready' Outfit including 6 'Radio' Blades costs only 5/-. Your money will be refunded willingly if you are not *perfectly* satisfied.

'Ever-Ready' Safety Razor

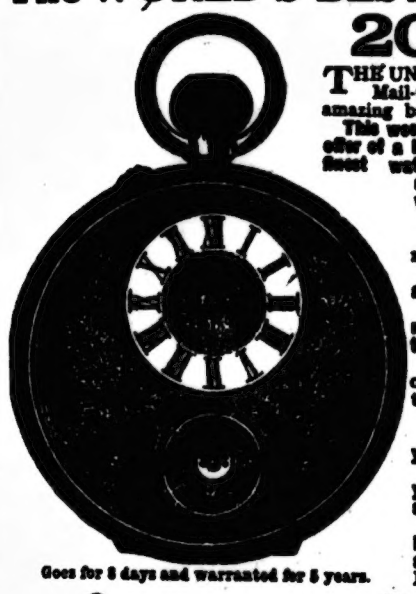
Complete with 6 'Radio' Blades **5/-** Extra 'Radio' Blades 6 FOR 2/- 12 FOR 4/-

BRITISH-AMERICAN SAFETY RAZOR CO. LTD., 3, Woodstock St., Oxford St., London, W.

The World's Greatest Bargain House

The WORLD'S BEST BARGAIN TO-DAY.

20/- ONLY (*Post Paid.*)



Goes for 8 days and warranted for 5 years.

THE UNIVERSAL STORES, LTD.—The Great Manchester Mail-Order firm—are again to the front with another amazing bargain.

This week we are making a marvellous and unprecedented offer of a High-grade Patent Nickel Silver 8-Day Watch, the finest watch yet invented. Beautiful jewelled movement, accurate and reliable timekeeper, and goes for 8 days with once winding.

The watch to keep an appointment with.

A watch you do not find stopped at a critical moment for want of winding or over-winding.

These wonderful watches cannot be over-wound, and are warranted for 5 years.

Thousands of these watches have been sold within recent months at two guineas each. Our price whilst the present stock lasts is only 20/- each, post paid.

Take immediate advantage of this remarkable offer and become the proud possessor of one of these handsome watches.

Send your order at once to save disappointment.

Cash willingly refunded if not delighted with your bargain.

Put 20/- in an envelope now, together with your name and address, and the Watch will be sent you by return, post paid.

Treasury Notes must be sent by Registered Post. Postal Orders and Cheques should be crossed "& Co." and made payable to the Universal Stores, Ltd.

Don't forget to write your name and address clearly.

Ask for our New Illustrated Catalogue, containing Hundreds of Bargains.

The Universal Stores (Manchester) Ltd.

(Dept. J.B.),
14, New Cannon St., MANCHESTER.
(The Firm with a Catalogue of Goods.)

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JOHN BULL

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war." *Milton.*

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant: Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

"For forms of government let fools contest; Whate'er is best administered is best.'—*Pope.*

Vol. XXIX. No. 774. Week ending Saturday, April 2nd, 1921. Twopence.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

The Independent Group.

This Group is about to issue a statement of its constitution and policy—which every Independent candidate standing at future elections under its auspices will be called upon to accept. Meanwhile, the brilliant maiden speech of Sir Thomas Polson has given a further fillip to the Group.

Mr. Chamberlain.

However much he may regret, as we are sure he does, the breakdown in health of Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Chamberlain must be extremely happy to be relieved of the task of introducing this year's Budget. The inevitable climb down on E.P.D., sparkling wines and cigars—coupled with the heavy depreciation in the market price of all Government stocks—would have been a sore trial even to such an imperturbable statesman.

Our Sporting Prince.

Popular institutions rest upon popular foundations; and the recent riding of a steeplechase winner by the Prince of Wales is another rivet in the base of the throne. We hope he will soon have a stud of jumpers of his own.

Painting the Pyramids.

According to the Press, Mr. Winston Churchill in his spare moments is "painting the pyramids." We have heard of painting the town red, but we presume that in this case the War Secretary is putting on a coat of scarlet.

Labour and the Hun.

The Labour Party are sending a special mission of inquiry to Germany—consisting, if you please, of Robert Williams, F. W. Jowett, and Miss Susan Lawrence. Of course, they will be shown just what they wish to see—as was the case of that other mission before the war, and also the one to Russia a little while ago.

Sensible Teaching.

We congratulate the Northumberland Education Committee on their decision to apply "intelligence tests" rather than mere proficiency in memory in their selection for County Scholarships. After all, the names of the wives of Henry VIII. do not much matter to the rising generation to-day.

A Bigamous Suggestion.

We all remember the schoolboy's definition of the plural and one-wife system of marriage—monogamy and monotony; and now comes the suggestion that, in order to solve the problem of the unmarried, "every man should be compelled to take to himself two wives." The converse of that proposal appeals more to us.

These War Criminals.

So the latest excuse is that there is a difficulty "in inducing witnesses to go to Leipzig." Then we had better bring the prisoners over here, after all. What a game it is!

India.

With every good will in the world towards the great Jewish faith, we cannot help asking ourselves whether it is *quite* wise that the Viceroyalty and the Secretaryship of State should both be in the hands of Israel.

In the Pulpit.

Thus the Rev. J. Holland, the Vicar of Kaispoi, Canterbury, New Zealand, apropos of our description of the service at the burial of the Unknown Soldier: "I was so struck with it that I took it with me to Church and read it in place of my sermon at the three churches in the parish." By the way, what about an Unknown Sailor?

£2,000
FOR TEN!

Fill up the free Football Coupon on page iii. of Cover.

Coming Events.

There was a mock election held by the Dolgelly ex-soldiers the other day, with four candidates, Labour, Coalition, Liberal, and Independent—and the voting worked out at 10, 16, 16, and 48 respectively. Our day is coming.

Banking Reform.

What is wanted to prevent the recurrence of these constant "Bank" failures is not only a periodical Government audit, but a Board of Trade licence before any person is entitled to incorporate the term "Bank" in his business description.

An Echo of the Past.

One of our constituents has sent us a copy of the *Hackney Hansard*—"The Official Journal of the Hackney Parliamentary Debating Society"—containing the report of a debate on 12th October, 1882. Even then, we were an Independent member—our constituency, however, being South *Ayrshire*; and we were evidently a somewhat perky young man. For instance, we find ourselves describing a Bill "for the Preservation of Open Spaces" as having for its object the retention in office of the "heads" of the Government!

Divorce Reform.

There is every reason to anticipate that some measure of Divorce Reform will be passed by Parliament this session, but it will be of a mild character. Still, it is the thin end of the wedge.

Postal Anomalies.

When Mr. Illingworth raised the penny postage rate to twopence, did he contemplate what is now happening in the case of firms doing a large circularising business—*viz.*, that they "stuff" and address their envelopes here, and then send them in bulk to France, America and Germany to be stamped and despatched there—thus saving thousands of pounds in postage?

Practical Sympathy.

We do not care to talk about these things, but since our attitude towards Labour is so frequently misrepresented, we are proud to remember that we were the principal subscriber to the Will Crooks Fund, promoted by his friends in Parliament—just as we had the privilege of placing a motor-car at the disposal of that good little fellow, Ben Tillett, during his convalescence in Brighton.

Sleepy Judges.

Jurywomen are beginning to "shake down" to their new duties. The chief trouble was removed when the Judges woke up to the fact that now under the provisions of the Sex Qualifications (Removal) Act they were empowered to exclude women in cases of indecency. Some time ago we directed attention to this clause in the Act, which had so curiously escaped the notice of some occupant of the Bench.

A Novel Exchange.

One of our readers—an ex-officer in the British army, and now engaged in business in Constantinople—complains that the French authorities there have placed every obstacle in his way, and bitingly enquires "Do you know of anyone who would like to exchange an Iron Cross for a nearly new Croix de Guerre?" We do not quite follow our correspondent's line of thought, but there it is.

The Bishop's Blunder.

So the Bishop of London's new Criminal Law Amendment Bill, which has passed through all its stages in the House of Lords, does not after all raise the "age of consent" from sixteen to seventeen as was originally proposed. As was pointed out by Lord Dawson and other eminent peers, the effect of such an amendment would be to render boys criminally liable in respect of girls who had passed their sixteenth birthday. If this was the Bishop's intention, no one can regret its failure.

Here's a Job!

A Surrey District Council wants a temporary assistant district surveyor—a good draughtsman, well up in building construction, surveying and building, ex-Service man preferred, and salary £175 per annum. In these days of cheap living the salary to many people may seem exorbitant, but if the successful candidate is a married man with a family he can always dispose of his excess profits to a local charity.

"Great Reductions!"

As an illustration of attempted extortion by landowners under the Act enabling local authorities to acquire land for small holdings for ex-Service men, a recent award by the Official Arbitrator in Bedfordshire, Mr. Howard Martin, may be usefully cited. For Chalton Farm, Mogerhanger, three of the Davison family claimed £54,900 apart from tenant right and manurial values; they were awarded £21,188 in all. There were other cases with considerable discrepancies between claim and value, but sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

More Wait and See.

There's a man at Rhymney in Monmouth who is seeking that proverbial ninepence for fourpence. First he had an accident; then his wife had a baby; and because he has received certain compensation for the accident, the National Amalgamated Approved Society won't give his wife benefit due for the baby; at any rate, he has been awaiting it since 24th November last year, but he hasn't had a ha'penny maternity benefit out of them yet. Whether they can't afford it, or have mislaid the money, or somebody has dropped the reference number down the drain, we do not profess to know.

Lynched.

There comes to us from San Francisco the "first photograph," published in the *Call*, of the lynching of three "gangsters" for shooting three police officers. The men were taken out of Sonoma County Jail, and strung up side-by-side from the branch of a tree at Santa Rosa. "Fifteen automobiles full" of San Francisco men were with the mob, many of them, according to report, policemen. The police have since been exonerated, "but they did the hanging as everybody knows," we are assured. The copy of the *Call* is sent to us, hoping we will "give Englishmen a glimpse of this savagery, which is peculiar to this unspeakably rotten country." What language! Besides, don't Yankees piously denounce the Black and Tans?

That "Spanish Prisoner."

Our old friend the "Spanish prisoner," with his tale of buried treasure, is on the war-path once more. He now signs himself "Juan Aguilera," and sends type-written epistles to well-to-do Englishmen, whose addresses he has managed to get hold of, and who own such patronymics as Smith, Brown, or Robinson, and, after claiming relationship through his "mother," beseeches their aid to retrieve "£36,000 of my propriety," which is buried in a place known only to himself, as "being in prison by political couses I can't retire myself this sum." He gives as address for communications: "Mr. Ramon Domeneck, Case de Viajeros, Pi j Margall so esquinia Gran-Vid, Valencia, Spain." It's quite time the Spanish police put an end to these attempts at fraud.

"Our Young Man's" Book.

"The Prince of Wales' Book," which is being published on behalf of St. Dunstan's, should really need nothing but this fact to recommend it to all who are grateful for the bitter sacrifice made by our blinded ex-Service men. But the volume, intrinsically, is delightful, offering as it does a photographic record of the Prince of Wales' remarkable tours in the interests of Imperial solidarity. Doubtless it is destined to achieve a vast sale.

On the Edmonton Front.

Hostilities have broken out here between the Labour Council candidates and the nominees of the Public Welfare Association. The objective of both belligerents are certain seats on the Edmonton Urban District Council, and the struggle is expected to be decided on Saturday, 2nd April. Meantime, the "Welfare Candidates" are making use of some very effective ammunition, one of their most deadly shells taking the form of a leaflet entitled "Bargain Catalogue of Great Sale by the Labour Council," which gives details of extravagance and waste for which local Labour has been responsible. It is good stuff.

FOOL!

YES—*you!* And you needn't flare up and write to the Editor for my address. Because I don't mean only you. I mean myself as well. *And* the Editor. And all our relations and acquaintances, all our enemies and friends. Everybody! We're *all* fools! And *such* fools.

You will enjoy the remainder of this clever article in "The Passing Show." Now on Sale 2d.

Queer Co-operation.

There is a trace of the wisdom of the serpent in the notice of amalgamation of the London Co-op. Society, Limited, with the West London Co-op., Limited, as sent out by the London Committee. No time for the sectional meetings is given, apparently to avoid a crush, yet the time of the final meeting at Stratford "to confirm the foregoing amalgamation resolutions" is given as 7.30. What's the betting that said resolutions are not carried unanimously?

The Only.

According to Lord Malmesbury, each man who has returned from France thinks he is the only man who won the war. However that may be, it is certain that the profiteer is the only man who has won the peace. By the way, Mr. John Summers, Chairman of John Summers, Ltd., has been telling the Dee Conservancy Board that he can't understand "anybody proposing to work less, receive more, and have a higher standard of living and luxury than before the war." We can—if he has been a profiteer.

Drink and Reason.

They have curious ideas of justice up Falkirk way. In one week Sheriff Moffatt had before him two cases of indecency. In the first the man, who stated that he had been drinking heavily, was sentenced to eight months; but a lenient view was taken in the other case, and because the accused had been in custody for seventeen days he was allowed to go, although his offence was in respect to his nine-year-old step-daughter. Apparently Sheriff Moffatt thinks that an offence by a man in drink is far more heinous than if committed when sober. All we can say is that, hitherto, most of our Judges have been wrong if Falkirk's Sheriff is right.

Dog in the Manger.

A widow, who has carried on alone her late husband's livery stables, had a chance to sell the business. The landlord declined to allow her to receive any consideration, on pain of refusing to accept the new tenant. Accordingly she was compelled to give ordinary quitting notice, and dispose of the stock for its common market price—the "goodwill" of the place, a most valuable asset, thus being lost. Now that the "business" is gone beyond recall, the premises are to be let to the very tenant to whom she wished to sell!

Too Little to Punch Tickets.

A hard case of apparently unrecognised merit is that of ex-Company Sergeant Major Hill, D.C.M. and M.M. Unfortunately these honours, earned at risk of life and limb, will not add a cubit to his stature, which is but 5 ft. 2½ in. He has applied to the L.C.C. for work as conductor, and surely a man who could fight the Boche so successfully could collect fares? But, after seeing several jobs given to later applicants than himself, he pressed the L.C.C. once more, only to be advised to apply to another department—whose chief need is navvies!

Still on the Ramp.

During the war the shipping companies did very good business in the matter of freights. Now, in these "piping days of peace," some of them are systematically taking an unfair advantage of their passengers. One line at least is issuing second-class tickets to people who, on boarding the boat, find that they are to occupy third-class berths. Of course, they rely on the fact that the travellers, having made all their arrangements for that particular ship, will not kick too hard. But the news is spreading, and they may find their lines boycotted if they are not careful.

Wash-Outs in Wallasey.

Field-Marshal Earl Haig recently issued a National Appeal for "Warriors' Day." The managers and proprietors of the various houses of entertainment in Wallasey decided to do their bit, by placing their halls, staffs and orchestras, with necessary printing and posting, all free of charge, for special pictures on Sunday, April 3rd. As the Customs were forgoing Amusements Tax, every penny realised would thus go to Earl Haigh's Fund. Then the Wallasey Watch Committee refused permission! To gratify the mud-minded mugwumpery of these obscure Sour-Sundayites, a noble cause must lose these much-needed contributions.

On the Grab.

A Manchester bookkeeper recently applied for a temporary job as clerk, advertised by the Lancashire Commercial Agency, 7, Brazennose Street, Manchester. He is an ex-soldier who lost one of his legs during the war and has recently been discharged from a book-keeping post in a firm who, on account of trade depression, have had to dispense with his services. He was offered for three months during stock-taking, a clerkship at £3 10s. a week, after having paid the Agency 17s. 6d. for the introduction. When he informed them of the offer made they demanded 5 per cent. on the whole salary for the year—£8 15s. "In the face of this," we are told, "he had to refuse this temporary appointment."

Forms and Farrow's.

White, pink, and green forms have already been sent out by the Official Receiver—and the Liquidator—of Farrow's Bank. The only thing needed to complete the exquisite harmony of the colour scheme is a form suggesting the blue looks of the depositors. Few of them are in the pink, and many admit that they have been green. "I know a bank where the wild flowers grow."

No Homes for the Married.

The advice to persons about to marry—don't—would find even greater excuse if it had to do with the house shortage. The National Housing and Town Planning Council points out that though 750,000 couples were married in 1919 and 1920, there are only 60,000 houses completed for them up to the present time. There is some satisfaction in knowing that ex-Service men and widows with large families have had first claim on these houses, but we would urge the Government to deal with the matter energetically.

Shun! Shunt!

Rumours as to the impending dismissal of military orderlies from Roehampton Hospital and the retention of civilian orderlies have materialised in the case of two men, each having a war record of which he has reason to be proud, and both having spilt their blood for their country. One of them was about to be married. His chest is ruined and his left arm only fit for light work, so that he will have difficulty in finding a situation among so many other unemployed outside the hospital. Several other ex-Service men on the staff are in fear that the current week's pay will be their last.

Brute Beats Baby.

To thrash a child of seven severely is unthinkable to decent people, and to use a heavy whipstock for the purpose stamps the beater as a brute without question. But when this mere baby is tuberculous, and reported as "small and weak," even for his tender years, words fail to supply an adequate description for the ruffian guilty of the act. Add to this calendar of inhumanity a drunken fit at the time of punishing this kiddie for the heinous crime of visiting a grandmother, and Frank Smith, of Brigg, blackguard and boosy bully, is lucky to receive a paltry month's imprisonment for a crime fully meriting six times as long a term and the "cat."

Sold at 70.

At Paignton lives an old lady, passed 70—her address, Conway Road. She has an income of £10 a year at the outside, "derived from interest on money temporarily on deposit with a bank, which was obtained by the sale of part of her furniture." On applying for Old Age Pension to the local Pensions Officer, she was asked, among other questions, how she obtained her coals, etc., and was then informed by this lordly gentleman that she would be allowed about 1s. a week. She is being kept from starvation by our informant and others. On this account the Old Age Pension is officially refused. "I told this man I would discontinue my allowance," says this friend, "and see what that would do, and he assured me that I should have to give them a guarantee that I would not pay the lady anything." Probably the official is within the law, which, however, is certainly no credit to the country.

Not Licensing Justice.

Somebody really ought to take to task the Licensing Justices presided over by Captain W. Hoff. They sat at Alford, Lincolnshire, the other day, and when the licence of one house came up for revision it was stated that the opposition to the renewal did not come from the police but from the Licensing Justices themselves. They instigated the prosecution, and then sat to deliver judgment! If that is their idea of justice, it isn't ours. It seems a bit Hoff!

Shipped to Canada.

The Director of Barnardo's Homes has shipped a number of young girls to Canada. Why? Apparently for engagement in domestic service, and this in times when there is ample scope for them in British homes. If they have already been trained as domestic helps there are British mistresses who would have been delighted to have them—or, if they have not been trained, to train them. To ship them to Canada seems to us unjustifiable is the circumstances prevailing to-day.

Long-Distance Ear-Biting.

Hans Kutmayer, of Vienna, is evidently quite prepared for the job of "Taking the Biscuit." He is a modest youth of 17, but with nerve enough for 70. He goes for a whole Biscuit factory, run by a Lewisham firm, with the cool request that they should more or less adopt him! He is in "heavy need, which me forces to tread on at you with a little request"—and proceeds to suggest that any old cash not needed will find a good home with him. If anything stops this impudent youth becoming a millionaire, it certainly will not be shyness.

Don't *Lose* Some.

Winsum, of the Bishopsgate Trading Co., 68, Bishopsgate, E.C., is before us again, and readers are once more warned not to *lose* some. Winsum's trick is to write to people, saying "We have the pleasure of informing you of your good fortune of having been awarded one of our valuable prizes." The alleged prize is a "handsome" lever watch and "all you have to do is to become a customer by sending 9s. 11d. for one of our finest quality chains to wear with the watch." Winsum "heartily congratulates" the recipient of the circular on his good luck; which is adding impudence to spoof. A Manchester reader asks whether we have "a rope to lend to these vulures." No use. The only drop they will get is when there are no fools on whom to fatten.

Daily Doorsteppers.

"Ex-Service men supplied with writing pads at lowest prices." So runs an advt. frequently appearing in an Aberdeen newspaper. We have before referred to the doorstep-hawking which advertisements of this kind tends to encourage, and which an Aberdeen resident describes to us as a scandal. "Is hawking writing pads a job fit for ex-soldiers?" he demands. "I admit, however, we are only the residue of the scrap heaps of France and Flanders." It may be true that there is no degradation in earning an honest living of any kind; on the other hand, householders are apt to regard this hawking business not only as a nuisance but as an imposition, for to gain a living the man has to charge a price out of all proportion to the value of the rubbishy stationery with which he is usually supplied.

A Rebel Ad.

"Public Notices: Sinn Fein. Those desiring to form Sinn Fein Clubs should write undersigned." Undersigned is "Organiser for Scotland." We don't know anything about the Glasgow paper which admits this advertisement, but if it is a decent newspaper it surely owes apology to its readers.

Wanted, a She-Demon.

The Rhos-on-Sea Golf Club, North Wales, have been advertising in the *Liverpool Echo* for a manageress who, it is stated, "must be domineering, autocratic, and absolutely fearless of an arbitrary staff; in short, a perfect demon." The members of the Rhos Club are evidently anxious to secure the services of a manageress who will keep them in countenance in the matter of strong language. But what a sidelight on sport!

The Grand National Scandal.

Apropos of our recently expressed opinion of the cruelty of the Grand National Steeplechase as at present run, the Hon. Sec. of the National Equine Defence League asks: "How many of these poor strained Grand National victims go to swell the constantly supplied queue which finds its way to Continental horrors ending with the hammer or the knife?" We are glad to know that the League, in common with all true horse-lovers, completely endorses our condemnation of this so-called "race."

Bait for Five-Pounders.

Three rooms, unfurnished, at £1 a week, is no great find for poor people; but a homeless worker, thankful for even this small mercy, went hot-foot from the shop-window in which this notice was displayed to the agent named,—a Mr. Gallilee, of 9, Lambs Conduit Street, Holborn. "Unfortunately they have just been let," was the reply, but others might be available in a few days. In the meantime the generous agent "guarantees six offers" of rooms for a paltry fee of £5! And the notice is still in the window.

Petrol Profiteering.

It is high time that the cost of petrol came down. When the old companies increased the price last year to 3s. 8½d. a gallon, they gave as excuses the high shipping freights and the abnormal rates of exchange. In many cases shipping freights are now less than one-third what they were twelve months ago, while the purchasing power of the pound has risen from 13s. 2d. to 16s. 11d.; and yet the price of petrol remains the same. Considering that the price in America is only half as much as we are paying, our oil kings would be well advised to be reasonable in their demands.

Courtesy Costs Nothing.

A reader sends us details of several inventions submitted by him to the Government Air Department at various times. We do not propose to express any opinion on the merits of the devices. We can easily believe that the Department, with others, was flooded by inventions, as we ourselves are now flooded by complaints either of complete neglect or of secret use of new ideas without acknowledgment. The latter is just plain theft and therefore, indefensible; but with respect to the former, why not have hired one office-boy, who could at least acknowledge with courtesy every invention offered, and thank the designer for any suggestion of value?

CHEATING THE TAXPAYER.

VAST SUMS TO BE EXPENDED WITHOUT PARLIAMENTARY SANCTION.

By W. CHARLES PILLEY (*Assistant Editor*).

ONE aspect of our present disordered financial situation has received far too little attention from the general public. Waste is bad enough and no condemnation is too severe for the profligate extravagance of the leading State Departments, but worst of all is the growing tendency of the Coalition Cabinet to spend the taxpayer's money without the sanction of Parliament. In the past the "power of the purse" has been the most cherished privilege of the House of Commons. From the days when John Hampden successfully resisted the payment of "ship money" in the reign of Charles I. it has been regarded as the prime safeguard of our national liberties. At that time the King was the culprit, and once the powers of the Monarchy were curbed it was thought that the common citizens of the realm need have no more fear of the robbery without violence that had till then been their accustomed lot. Alas, for the deceitfulness of human hopes! In these enlightened days, and after a war that was supposed to have "made the world safe for democracy," the peril recurs in a form that threatens to undermine the whole fabric of the Constitution. To-day, not the Crown, but its Ministers are the offenders. By the specious device of Orders in Council and other arbitrary ministerial acts, vast sums of money are frittered away without so much as a "by your leave" to the nation's elected representatives. Frequently the debates upon the Supplementary Estimates are reduced to a farce by the well-grounded suspicion that the money asked for has already been spent, without the approval of the House of Commons. True, Parliament seldom displays the indignation that might be expected to follow the invasion of its most cherished rights. More's the pity. Still, the public should be alive to the danger that undoubtedly exists.

Those Monstrous "Mandates."

Take the case of the mandates in the Middle East. Under the Treaty of Versailles, Great Britain has accepted vast obligations in Mesopotamia and Palestine, the full extent and burden of which the nation is only now beginning to learn. The British taxpayer, remember, was never consulted on the matter. It is estimated that in the coming year the mandates will cost the country not less than twenty-eight million pounds, and from what we know of the conditions prevailing in the Middle East, it is not unlikely that this sum may be heavily exceeded. In spite, however, of this threatened invasion of the public purse, Parliament has had no opportunity of considering the terms of the mandates or even of expressing an opinion as to whether they ought to be put in force at all. No one outside Cabinet circles knows the precise extent of our commitments or the exact purposes for which this money is to be spent. In accepting such obligations without the historic safeguard of Parliamentary approval, Ministers may have conformed to the letter of the Constitution, but in my view they have grossly violated its spirit.

Paying Piper, Not Calling Tune.

The terms upon which Great Britain is prepared, at a huge and crushing cost to the taxpayer, to undertake the administration of Mesopotamia and Palestine are to be communicated in the first instance, not to the British Parliament, but to the Council of the League of Nations at Geneva, and only when the whole thing is "cut and dried" will the expensive secret be confided to the House of Commons. If the Committee of Supply should then refuse to vote the money—which, in its present spineless mood, it is not at all likely to do—we should see Ministers shedding salt tears over broken Treaty obligations and the alleged dishonouring by this country of its plighted word. Consequently we may reconcile ourselves to the prospect of having to find twenty-eight millions this year and more as time goes on, knowing all the while that the burden has been saddled upon us through the arbitrary and unauthorised acts of the King's Ministers. If ever the "thin end of the wedge" argument was admissible, it is in relation to this cynical assault on popular rights. It is no use pretending that the dangerous situation has arisen without the full knowledge and approval of responsible Ministers. As regards the costly Mesopotamian mandate, the outline of which has reached the British public only through the medium of American newspaper comment, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs is wholly unrepentant and declines absolutely to lay the papers on the table of the House of Commons. "When you ask me whether it will go through Committee in Parliament," said Lord Curzon the other day, "I do not think it will, and I do not think it ought. I think Parliament will be asked to give a general expression of its opinion about it. But I fail to see anything which would justify us in thinking at this stage that if the Council of the League accept it, with or without amendment, it is then open to Parliament to pull it to pieces afterwards." Who governs the foreign policy of the British Empire? Who holds the purse-strings? Who foots the bill? The last of these questions is the only one that can be answered without doubt or ambiguity.

The Crowning Insult.

As if to add insult to injury, Lord Curzon airily announces that, although the British taxpayer who is to pay the bill may be in ignorance of the exact terms of the mandates for Mesopotamia and Palestine, their provisions have been "shown to the French and Italians." As though that made matters any better! From the point of view of the tax-burdened British citizen the position is unredeemed by a single ray of comfort. Without his consent, the delegates to the Versailles Conference muddled up the business of making peace with Germany with all sorts of extravagant proposals for the reorganisation of the Middle East, and now that precise effect is to be given to their promises, the matter is to be wholly excluded from the purview of the House of Commons. The Bill will be presented with an intimation more or less direct from the Treasury Bench that unless it is promptly and pleasantly paid the Government will feel it incumbent upon them to deprive the nation of their valued services. So much for "democratic government" in this year of grace. Shades of Cromwell! To what a pass we have come!

WOE FOR THE WIDOW.

JUDGE SHOWS THE LAW IN CALLOUS LIGHT.

A recent decision of Judge Scully strikes us as ethically all awry. A widowed woman, 78 years of age, was sub-tenant of her immediate landlord, a man called Jones. Jones left last summer; subsequently a builder did some internal repairs. This man persuaded the old lady to move from her own room into another while the repairs were done; and the owner not only took advantage of the fact to claim possession of the room, but sent his son and daughter, without any Order from the Court, to eject her. These people locked the old lady in her room while they bundled her furniture into the street. Then they ejected her with such violence that one of her ribs was broken. The poor creature being the plaintiff in the case against the owner, the Judge decided that, being old, her rib would be easily broken, and "no more force was used than was necessary." Then His Honour also decided that the owner was entitled to benefit by the vicarious advantage the repairing builder had gained for him and that in the room into which she was persuaded to go she became a trespasser. If there is any substance in the maxim that law is the perfection of reason, Judge Scully's law is about as lawless as law can sometimes be. As to the grotesque inequity of the decision we have no doubt whatever.

JONES—HIS JOB.

THE WILY ADVERTISER AND HIS WAYS.

A few days ago there appeared in an important London newspaper the following advertisement:—

> A Good Situation is offered an Ex-Service Man in the country, who is not afraid of work.

One of our readers applied for the post. He received in reply a letter from one C. (or E.) Jones, c.o. Rhodes' Drift, Bovingdon Green, Marlow, in the following intriguing terms:—

> I'm leaving my job in a fortnight's time, as I'm going abroad, and the boss asked me to find a man for him, so I advertised, which cost me 8s., so if it is worth that to you, send it, and I'll send time and place to be interviewed by the boss. I expect he will be wanting several soon, as he is opening another farm. The job is on a poultry farm—£2 a week and all found. I've had several replies, so let's know early if any good to you.

Mr. Jones, on the point of leaving for abroad, admits with delightful candour that he has already "had several replies"; each, presumably, accompanied by the useful sum of eight shillings. We would recommend his late employer to insert his own advertisements in the papers in future, and thereby protect possible employees from an unwarrantable impost.

PATRIOTISM GONE WEST!

NOW THEY SELL THE GOODS OF THE HUN!

Once upon a time, we heard—or did we only dream it?—about a big push that was to be made in order to capture trade that had been almost exclusively in the hands of the Austrians and the Germans. It was a scheme that the "100 per cent." patriots proposed to carry out. It was to be part of the plan to make this country fit for heroes. But although we really believe that something like this was expounded, we have come to the conclusion that it must be one of those little illusions that we all cherish. The Hun is coming back. At the Stork Hotel, Liverpool, last week, a Glasgow firm—Messrs. Smith, Clatworthy and Duff—arranged to show makers' samples, and invited the trade to come and buy fancy leather goods by Ludwig Krum, of Offenbach, manicure sets by Oskar Karpeles, of Vienna; post-card albums, autograph books, blotters, note books, glove and handkerchief boxes made by R. Block and Co., of Berlin, and toilet brushes by F. L. Lenk, of Schoenheide, Saxony. Messrs. Smith & Co. made no apology for offering all these goods, but we have no doubt they were 100 per cent. patriots during the war. Now, apparently, they are content to be 50 per cent. patriots, or whatever commission they get for handling the manufactures of the Hun!

ADMIRALTY SPONGING.

SQUANDERMANIA REPUDIATES PALTRY CLAIM.

A sadder, wiser, and poorer man is Maurice Finlay, Cushendun, Antrim. Working as a coastguard on the bleak Antrim Coast, he heard that the Admiralty were requiring premises as a "War Watching Station." A plague of German submarines being rife at the time in the seas near his house, he unhesitatingly placed his home at the disposal of the Admiralty for the urgent purpose intended. The officials were only too glad to get it, and it became "War Watching Station, Cushendun." A telephone was installed in the hall, and a night bell connected to Finlay's bedroom above. A sitting-room was detailed as the "Office," and a bedroom opening off accordingly closed. Orders were posted that "no person be allowed on the premises occupied by the Admiralty except on Admiralty business, the books and offices to be locked up in the 'Watcher's' absence." Rations of fuel and light, circular letters and official memoranda were duly furnished as to an ordinary station. There was nothing to distinguish Cushendun from any other station for which the Admiralty paid rent to occupy, had a paid telephone attendant, and bore all other expenses. But, having used Finlay as a "Watcher," his wife as a confidential servant, his house as an office, his yard and garden as a dump for wreckage, flotsam and jetsam, the Admiralty Board coolly state that, as he voluntarily placed his home at their disposal, they will pay him and his absolutely nothing! This man has a wife and six children, the eldest being twelve. They make about £50 annually from letting apartments in the season, which the Admiralty occupation stopped. After sponging all through the war on this poor devil, these official misers calmly sit tight and remark that "the use made was not such as to give a claim to recompense"!

CONDEMNED UNHEARD.

GRIEVOUS WRONG DONE AT PLYMOUTH.

Mr. A. S. Parker, of Partick, Glasgow, complains that he has been deprived by the Ministry of Labour of a maintenance grant of £60 a year as a dental pupil, without just cause. The Plymouth Committee appear to have acted upon a report made by Mr. H. G. James, a dental surgeon of Plymouth, whose pupil he was. "Dear Parker," writes this gentleman after Mr. Parker had committed the indiscretion of marriage, "Please note I do not require you in either of my workshops again. I have notified the Pensions Committee to this effect, giving reason that you are not using their generosity to sufficient advantage." The bluntness of this intimation is in such peculiar contrast to the testimonial this gentleman gave his pupil a month afterwards, that a malicious desire to injure might, perhaps unfairly, be suggested. "Mr. A. Southcombe Parker has been a pupil with me for 12 months," he wrote on 2nd Feb. last. "He has always been steady, very, very willing, and of good character. He is leaving me as, being married, he is anxious to qualify as quickly as possible by taking his qualification in Scotland. He is a very useful man generally, being an excellent penman and a skilful amateur engineer. I shall be pleased to answer any further inquiries. H. Gwyn James." But the damage had been done. Without a word of explanation the Appointments Department of the Ministry of Labour at Plymouth notified Mr. Parker that his grant had been stopped from the date of last payment. Their letter is dated 7th March. The victim is an ex-soldier of 23, who joined up at 17 years of age in 1914. Invalided out in 1916, he rejoined in 1918 and served until invalided out again as a result of rheumatic fever. It is very shocking to think that such men should be penalised unheard by a Ministry whose duty and obligation it is to assist them.

NOT GUILTY?

WRONG MAN "SHARING THE SHAME."

In our issue of Jan. 29th, we commented severely on a scoundrel who, admittedly the father of a single girl's child, yet compelled her, repeatedly to face the publicity of a Court to enforce payment of the weekly sum awarded her. But what of the man who is "Not Guilty"? Robert Rowlands was accused of the paternity of Alice Wallace's illegitimate child, but the Conway Magistrates refused to believe her story, and dismissed the case. The girl issued another summons, and the Llandudno Bench accepted her statement, making an Order against Rowlands—who still vehemently and on oath denied the charge. He appealed to Quarter Sessions, but the appeal was dismissed. Firm in his repudiation, he refused to pay, was arrested and committed to prison for a month, reiterating that he was not the father of the child. Released from prison, he was again arrested a fortnight later for non-payment of two weeks at ten shillings. Asked if he intended to pay he replied in the negative, but added that it was not from desire to defy the law, but because he was not the child's father. He was now in a position to offer further evidence that when the girl denied relations with any other man she was in fact intimate with one. He had not this evidence when the Order he vehemently disputes was made, but has discovered the facts since. He had been endeavouring to get into touch with the man referred to, in order to secure another hearing in the High Court, where the fresh evidence might be produced. The Magistrates, however, could deal only with the present offence of disobeying the Order, and committed him for 14 days. The position of this unlucky man, therefore, is that he must either pay money unjustly demanded until he can secure a fresh hearing, or refuse to pay and never get his fresh hearing because he will never be out of gaol long enough! And if he is really "Not Guilty"?

PRINTER'S PIE.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of each item published. Envelopes must be marked "Pie,")

"DAILY ARGOSY" (Demerara):—"On the FOOT becoming swollen AT THE KNEE he was taken to the hospital."

"CHUMS":—"They both had their hands thrust deep into the POCKETS of their SOU'WESTERS."

"LINCOLNSHIRE ECHO":—"At a WHIST DRIVE held in the Rifle Drill Hall . . . the MOURNERS were Miss———, Mrs.———, etc."

"CALCUTTA STATESMAN" (advertisement):—"LADY Going Home FOR SALE PRICED LOW."

"BOYS' FRIEND":—"Bob Lawless GLANCED BACK WITHOUT TURNING HIS HEAD."

"ALNWICK AND COUNTY GAZETTE":—"(He) died . . . as the result of DOUBLE PNEUMONIA in both LEGS."

"WESTMINSTER GAZETTE":—"Trams are NOT RUN after six o'clock in the evening, and THEN ONLY IN THE SUBURBS."

"CHIPS":—"Tony Warrington's HEAD drooped to his CHIN."

"DAILY RECORD AND MAIL":—"She put her hand up to her face and FELT that it was RED and shiny."

"SEXTON BLAKE LIBRARY":—"His VOICE was very low, yet to my EYES it SOUNDED loud."

"ABERGAVENNY CHRONICLE AND MONMOUTHSHIRE ADVERTISER" (advertisement):—"EGGS! Several dozens—NEITHER FOR COOKING NOR EATING."

"HALIFAX EVENING COURIER" (advertisement):—"Electrician, Wanted good all-round man. No EXPERIENCED PERSON NEED APP LY."

The Nation's Choice

JOHN BULL knows a good thing when he tastes it. That is why SHARP'S SUPER-KREEM TOFFEE has taken first place in the heart of the nation. Its universal popularity has been *won* by out-and-out superiority—there never was and never will be a sweet to equal it for flavour, for purity and for thorough wholesomeness. Think of somebody you would especially like to please—then buy him, or her, something that is sure to give delight—a tin of SHARP'S SUPER-KREEM—you will see it in any confectioner's window.

8d. Per ½ lb.

Sold loose by weight or in 4 lb. decorated tins—also in ½, ¼ and 1 lb. tins.

E. SHARP & SONS, LTD., MAIDSTONE.

The largest manufacturers of Toffee in the world.

SHARP'S SUPER-KREEM TOFFEE

CATARRH, COLDS, SORE THROATS

Coughs and similar worries can be avoided by the regular use during treacherous weather of POND'S EXTRACT, the safe antiseptic which kills germs. If it is too late for prevention, an instant use of Pond's will effect speedy relief and remove the risk of serious consequences. Pond's Extract has for 75 years been the household remedy for Cuts, Burns, Scalds, Bruises, Wounds, Varicose Veins, Piles, Rheumatism, Eczema, Bed Sores, etc.

Of all Chemists, 1/6, or for P.O. to the Manufacturers.

POND'S EXTRACT OINTMENT. It is the sovereign remedy for Piles, Bunions, Corns, Rough Skin, etc. In jars 1/9, and 3/-.

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Pond's Extract The Old Family Doctor

AN UNSAVOURY LEAGUE.

LIVERPOOL PHILANTHROPIST TAKES THE WRONG TURNING.

IT is high time that serious attention was directed to the activities of the so-called Corporal Correction League, of 121, Limekiln Lane, Liverpool, a concern which exists for no more useful purpose than to carry on a feverish propaganda in favour of the whipping of children. To avoid misunderstanding we may say that, in a general way. we have no particular objection to the reasonable use of corporal punishment, if it is considered by parents or teachers to be the best way of correcting childish faults. Nevertheless, we have found it necessary from time to time to protest emphatically against uncurbed violence under the guise of punishment; while occasionally, as in the case of the Liverpool League, there are still deeper moral principles involved. The Founder and Director of this amazing body is a Mr. H. Lee Jones, who, we are told, has an excellent record as a philanthropist and is credited with having in the past done much to improve the lot of child dwellers in the Liverpool slums. All we can say is that if this was once Mr. Jones' mission in life his later activities are sadly out of harmony with the earlier phases of his career. Whether Mr. Jones is simply a stupid old man with a bee in his bonnet or a wilful panderer to degenerate tastes it is a little difficult to determine. We will leave our readers to judge for themselves.

An Indecent Propaganda,

Obsessed with the "naughtiness" of the modern youngster and leaning upon the maxim, "Spare the rod and spoil the child," the Corporal Correction League sets out to instruct parents and others in the art of whipping. The circulars issued for this purpose are of such a nature as to revolt every instinct of delicacy, and it is hard to resist the suggestion that their authors have set out with the deliberate intention of pandering to depraved tastes. We print below a single extract—by no means the worst—from the League's manifesto:

> Do not hit your children on the head (which is dangerous) or hands—both of which ways are more like 'fighting' them—but (with your hand only) whip them, over your knee as our grandmothers did, where, and in the humbling way that they will feel shame as well as pain, and take time in uncovering a child for the whipping, so that it may feel the disgrace the more, and show no temper over any of your action, stopping in the middle of the chastisement to tell the child again—having told it beforehand—why it is being punished. Give, say, in force according to the child's age, ten slaps to begin with, then a second talking-to—with the child still uncovered on your knee—then, say, six more slaps. Between the first talking-to—the preparation, first slapping, second talking-to and second slapping—about five minutes should be, taken. It will be found further helpful in impressing the all-important feeling of disgrace by letting the child re-fix its own clothes, if old enough to do so.

At the best this sort of "advice to mothers" scattered broadcast through the post is a gratuitous impertinence only excusable on the ground of the indulgence due to an old man in his dotage. At the worst it may be construed, not without reason, as a deliberate attempt to stir up passions that should be jealously suppressed. It is an unfortunate fact that associated with certain forms of sexual depravity there is a "whipping mania," which, while not very rife in this country, has obtained a great hold on the Continent—especially in Germany, where before the War it numbered a vast army of devotees. Without casting any undue reflection upon Mr. Jones, it may be said that anything which panders to these degenerate tastes is to be severely deplored, and if the Founder of the Liverpool Correction League still deserves the name of "philanthropist" we strongly urge him to desist from a propaganda fraught with such obvious moral perils. At present these pamphlets are getting into the hands of all sorts and conditions of people, many of whom, in applying for them, are doubtless animated by improper motives. For this very reason we deliberately withhold the more objectionable items, publishing only enough to show the the general trend of the League's propaganda and to justify our demand for its instant suppression. The following further extract illustrates at once the absurdity and nastiness of Mr. Jones' principal circular:

> You can repeat this safe form of whipping if obstinacy continues. And whip a girl in this old-fashioned way just as much as a boy, and do not stop as your children grow older (say, up to fifteen years of age), if such correction is still needed, as it may be in some cases. What the hand method of whipping lacks in pain as children grow older, will, as a rule, be made up by the increased feeling of shame.

A Coadjutor in Folly.

The mistaken propaganda of the Liverpool Correction League has from time to time been reinforced by a writer in the *Liverpool Courier* who uses the pen name of "Delphian." Whether "Delphian" is a man or a woman, and in what degree he or she owes inspiration to Mr. H. Lee Jones, we are unable to say, but as regards the flogging of children this writer is as suspicious a fanatic as the Liverpool philanthropist, unless we are to assume that the two are identical, which seems not unlikely. Under the cloak of pseudonymity "Delphian" flings reticence to the winds and frequently regales his readers with such neurotic and indecent outpourings as that which we reprint below:

> I think that for a boy to be corrected in the proper, old-fashioned way by a woman is one of the greatest safeguards for purity, and one of the strongest means of preventing the growth of any premature sexual feelings. Nothing could so quickly put a stop to unchildish sexual forwardness as a good whipping administered by a matronly woman. Any boy after such treatment cannot but be inclined to the proper state of childishness by the pain no less than by the salutary humiliation—a boy of even 17 is, or ought to be, still a child! I believe that boys so treated, right up to 16 or 17 years of age, would in seven cases out of 10 keep chastity until marriage.

The suggestion that such disciplinary methods, continued after the age of puberty, would conduce to chastity is of course an impudent and indecent reversal of the truth. If "Delphian" and Mr. H. Lee Jones are men of the world they must know very well that the noxious stuff they are publishing is calculated to work grievous moral injury. In any case, the sooner they are silenced the better. The circulars of the Corporal Correction League and the poisonous vapourings of "Delphian" should secure the close scrutiny of the Liverpool police.

DILAPIDATION AND DISEASE.

JUST COMPENSATION DENIED TO PATRIOT.

The Directorate of Lands accepted the offer of Colonel F. Gossett to place his house at their disposal for an anti-aircraft battery. On the termination of the tenancy, the Colonel, to his dismay, found the place in a very dilapidated condition, and examination disclosed that £697 would need to be spent to put the premises in their former state of repair. Also it was found that a contagions disease had been rife among the men occupying the house, and that in addition to its generally filthy and disgusting state it was positively dangerous for any person to live in until thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. The Colonel sent in his estimate for repairs, together with an indignant protest against the very dangerous taint left by the late tenants. To this he received a reply, offering £139 for repairs, and adding that the house was in such poor repair when he quitted it that he could not have found a tenant without doing the place up! As the Colonel and his wife were living in it before handing it over to the Government, this cool statement is priceless. The Directorate, after much correspondence, have increased their offer to £232. Thus the gallant Colonel gave up his home for months for no return; finds it damaged to the extent of £697; is out of pocket £105 in rent while it is being renovated; and has a dire infectious disease infesting the place!

"BULLETS" SOLVES HOUSING PROBLEM.

1,000 GUINEAS FOR A GALLANT EX-SOLDIER!

We do not suppose for one moment that when Mr. W. Beckley, of 8, Cranham Terrace, Oxford, sat down at his leisure to compete in our Thousand Guineas "Bullets" Competition No. 405, he dared to dream that he might be the winner. We have almost invariably found that the most successful competitors are the most modest in their estimate of the quality of their efforts; while "Bulleteers" whose attempts place them in the third or fourth rank are sometimes prone to fancy that the laurels should be theirs. Mr. Beckley's win came to him as a surprise, and we have received from him a most interesting letter of appreciation. He tells us that his effort was entirely his own, He informs us, moreover, that he is an ex-soldier with 12 years' service to his credit, including four years' active warfare (three wound stripes), and six months in Gallipoli with the 29th Division. A gallant soldier, and a wit, he has had one homely and praiseworthy ambition. His wish has been to buy a house and settle down. This desire we have, most happily, been instrumental in gratifying, for Mr. Beckley informs us that the Thousand Guineas will enable him to realise his hopes. Bullets, during the past dread years, have done more to destroy than to create, but we are rejoiced to find that "Bullets," as run by John Bull, are fulfilling a more peaceful purpose.

OFFICIAL TWISTING.

DELIBERATE GOVERNMENT BILKING.

A glaring case of shameless official "jiggery-pokery" has occurred in connection with the Board of Agriculture. On November 2, 1917, a farmer was served with a "notice" to plough up grass land to plant cereals, which he did. Unfortunately the crop was a failure through bad weather. His claim for compensation was pronounced the "most honest and carefully worked out" that the Secretary of the National Farmers' Union had ever had before him. The Board's reply, after many reminders, was that he "will not suffer loss"—when he was claiming for loss already suffered! The farmer appealed against this obvious wriggle—only to be told then that as his loss occurred through bad weather, which was an "Act of God," no compensation could be paid. His loss now admitted, he took heart and pressed again; this time he was offered arbitration. Selecting an arbitrator from the official list, he wrote several letters requesting hearing, being informed that "terms of reference were being prepared." Nothing further resulting, he applied once more. The astounding response was that the Board did not consider his case one for arbitration! Further pressure elicited a new excuse—viz., that he received only a "notice," but no "order" to plough up his land. This tomfoolery has now gone on for two years—all to avoid payment of a paltry £80 to a man who did his duty.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

This space is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.

To Sir John Collie, M.D.

DISTINGUISHED DOC., — Might I suggest that you "mark time" a bit with your sundry contraptions for measuring human thoughts and feelings? In a recent case a stevedore fell into a ship's hold, it not being properly guarded and the decks being very greasy. He broke no bones, it is true, but has experienced severe internal pains for thirteen weeks. The Clyde Shipping Company admitted liability, but you examined the man with your box of electric tricks and accused him of malingering. Judge Jackson used common-sense instead, and decided for the man. Believe me, the world can wait a little longer as regards your electrical saw-bonery. But if you can dig up a really good cure for corns——! JOHN BULL.

To the Baron Nicholas Van den Bruggen, Stoke Poges Golf Club, Slough.

HERR BARON,—You must, I am sure, haff delighded been to kome all der vay from der Vaterlandt to vorgedt der vor und shoulders rub mit der vile Englander ov der Stoke Poges Golf Club. I kno nodt who der member vhas who loff you zo dot he to grace der golf course bring yo on der Saturday vhen Stoke Poges playdt der match mit St. George's Hill, budt I kno it mit kreat pride vos dot you der name sign in der visitorbok as Baron von den Brüggen, Berlin. Gott mit uns! Hoch! Hoch!! Hoch!!! JOHN BULL.

To Sir A. Kaye Butterworth, General Manager, North Eastern Railway.

DEAR SIR KAYE,—Until the end of May, 1919, Mr. Frederick Preston was employed in the General Manager's office, when he left because there was no longer anything for him to do. He asked for a testimonial, which was refused. A year afterwards you gave him one of sorts which it appears is now calculated to do him more harm than good, as it leaves out his character altogether. Recently he got a labourer's job on the N.E.R. Sidings at Scotswood-on-Tyne. The Divisional Superintendent of the Company now faces him with a printed demand for a "testimonial of character from last employer," the paradox being that his last employer was the Company itself, which declines to give him a "character" at all. If he does not get a character, he says, he will get the boot, and his wife and kiddies will go hungry. Will you be kind enough to take the right steps to relieve the poor chap's mind? JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard, St. Martins-in-the-Fields Church, London.

REVEREND SIR,—I notice that in a recent debate you were called upon to defend the manner in which you were conducting your church. You said that you were not a bit afraid of trying new experiments, such as having a Guards' band to provide beautiful music, a parish magazine that would stand reading, and an open church for anyone who wishes to sleep there at night. You are one of the most sensible parsons I know. The "dry as dust service" has long since ceased to attract, and it is refreshing to find you separating religion from long faces and gloomy tracts. The Church would be less weak-kneed had it more men of your sort. JOHN BULL.

To the Chairman, Board of Guardians, Wandsworth.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN,—How long is this repairing business at the Nurses' Home, St. John's Hill, to last? My question arises out of the fact that twenty nurses have been turned into the day room of a small ward containing 20 beds, with 1½ feet or less between the beds, a long table with washing utensils, five small windows for ventilation, and nine small screens for privacy. On complaining of this insanitary lack of accommodation the nurses are told by the Medical Superintendent that they are all of the same sex and rank, and that if they do not care to put up with the discomfort they are at liberty to resign. I cannot think that any Health Inspector would regard the conditions as suitable for nurses after exacting work among sick patients. JOHN BULL.

To James Parker, 148, Cranbury Road, Eastleigh.

INHUMAN BRUTE,—In so addressing you I am possibly libelling the lower orders of creation, which, at any rate, keep themselves and offspring clean. The evidence describing the unspeakably filthy and verminous kennel which is "home" to your poor kiddies, would turn the stomach of a scavenger. It was stated to be a very old case, and one of the worst the Bench had ever heard. Not wishing to break up your "home," however, they gave you "another chance." But it would have done your callous nature and that of your sluttish wife no harm to sentence you both to a month or two, while the foul hole in which you live was fumigated, disinfected and dug out, and the kiddies given the luxury of a few weeks of clean clothes. JOHN BULL.

To the Directors, Northern Co-operative Society, Aberdeen.

DEAR "COMRADES,"—Your recent action in taking a plebiscite of your members affords an interesting object-lesson to the general public. Your shop-assistants asked for a rise in wages. You pointed out that you had "given in time after time to such demands," but felt that this latest request should be submitted to the shareholders. The latter are, in an overwhelming majority, trades-union members, whose custom, when increased wages come out of the pockets of "capitalists," is to demand a rise and strike if refused. But when it means their own dividends are threatened, and increased wages must come out of their own pockets, they turn their fellow trades unionists down by a vote of 5 to 1! Being a "boss" *does* make a difference in the point of view, doesn't it? JOHN BULL.

To Mr. George Warne.

DEAR GEORGE,—I have seen a report to the effect that you, the prospective Labour Candidate for Wansbeck, have offered to stand down in favour of either Ramsay Macdonald or Philip Snowden. Are you under some obligation to those parties—which I could understand your being anxious to discharge—or do you owe your country a grudge? I prefer a possible third interpretation of your alleged action—to wit, that Labour's chances of success in the Division appear to you so remote that you would rather defeat were suffered either by Ramsay or Philip than by yourself. In which case there is wisdom in your abnegation. JOHN BULL.

To William Hamilton Leycester, Esq., Marylebone Police Court.

DEAR MAGISTRATE,—You are a cadi after my own heart. I liked the rebuke you administered to a police-constable who, at the behest of an irate kinema manager, entered the auditorium, dragged a member of the audience from his seat, and ejected him from the premises. You pointed out to the over-zealous "bobby" that he had no right to interfere in a purely personal dispute. Kinema managers are in many instances becoming, with less excuse, even more lordly than their brothers of the "legitimate" theatre. It would be abominable if they acquired an impression that they could call in the police on any frivolous pretext to throw out a person who had paid for a seat. JOHN BULL.

In the Barber's Chair - - - - - - - Mr. Speaker.

Goo' mornin', sir. You don't orfen favour me with a visit, but I ain't none the less pleased to see yer. Take this chair, sir. It ain't quite so 'an'som as the one wot you sets in in the 'Ouse, an' p'raps it ain't so comferble. But, like the Speaker's Chair in the Commons, its gotter bitter v'istry of its own. Some of the leadin' lights of the cenchery 'ave set in it, and amongst them you ain't by no means the least, if you'll ellow me to say so, sir. Wot kin I 'ave the pleasure? . . . *Jest trim your beard?* Cert'n'y, sir. Thet's a very characteristic feacher o' yours, sir—thet close-clipped beard; and although I'm in favour of the clean-shaved chin meself, I must say as a tidy beard like yours gives you a *hextra* touch o' thet dignity wots wanted for your job. By the way, sir, I 'ear you're givin' up on the eleventh—retirin' . . . I'm sorry to 'ear it, in one way. But I dessay you kin do with a rest. You've occupied the Chair jurin' some o' the most remarkable years in our 'istry—tryin' years, too; and I reckon you've come through them with as much credit as any Speaker o' the parst. You'll leave a different 'Ouse to the one wot you first took the Chair in. I dessay it seems to you as if all the ole traditions 'ad gorn west. There's the Coalition, fur one thing—the Liberal lion layin' down with the Conservative lamb, so to speak . . . Eh? . . . *You'd 'ardly characterise the Conservatives as lambs?* P'raps not, sir; but they are, in a manner o' speakin'. W'en you first took the Chair, did jew ever expect to see the Tories settin' meek under the leadership o' Lloy' George? . . . Ah, I thought not. An' there's another thing, sir—if you'd never done nothink else to be remembered by you'd still go down to 'istry as the Speaker of the 'Ouse wot first admitted a woman M.P.! 'Ow did jew feel, sir, w'en the lady first caught your eye? I'll bet it gave you a queer sorter feelin' . . . Sorry, sir, if I'm out of order. O' course, you'll reserve little bits like thet for the story of your life, w'en you come to write it. Arfter the eleventh, I suppose, you'll go up to the 'Ouse o' Lords, like wot most Speakers 'ave done at the end o' their term. 'Ave you fixed on a title yet, sir? . . . Wot, am I out of order again? Well, well! You must excuse me ignorance o' Parlymentry proceedjer. Now, 'oo's goin' to follow you, sir?—Mr. Whitley or Sir Ernest Pollock? . . . Wot, *it would be improper for you to awnser thet qucstion?* Well, I carn't see you doin' nothink improper, sir, so I won't press yer. But 'ooever it is, 'e'll 'ave to be a smart one to follow you with credit. . . . At the same time, I rawther favours Mr. Whitley, meself. I know there's some opposition at work against him—but I don't think it matters, not in this case. Thank you, sir; I'm very much obliged . . . Goo' day, sir! . . .

THREE RIVALS FOR

Chamberlain, Churchill, and the Chancellor—

By THE

POOR LITTLE WELSHMAN—I am afraid his reign is nearly over. For five years he has kept together, under the title of Coalition, all the most incongruous and incompatible elements in political life. Starting himself an advanced Liberal—the hero of Limehouse, the purveyor of refreshing fruit for the parched lips of the multitude, enemy of landlords and the squire's pheasants who ate the famous mangel-wurzels—he has by degrees become the leader-designate of the Tory Party. He has, however, several jumps to negotiate, having effectually dished the Liberals, who, as a Party, no longer count. And, now that the Coalition is crumbling to pieces, the question arises who *shall* be the new Leader, for certain it is that only the Imperialist and Constitutional elements in it will survive the impending crash. Far be it from me to suggest for a moment that there was anything of the diplomatic element in the breakdown of Mr. Bonar Law. I believe him to have been seriously overworked and to be in need of a complete nerve rest. But no one can deny that he has chosen the psychological moment for his departure—leaving the Little Man from Wales to join in a four-handed game for political supremacy in the times immediately ahead of us. The other players are Chamberlain, Churchill, and Lord Birkenhead. I leave out Lord Derby, who has more than once told me that he is tired of public life, and that after his strenuous work it is imperative that he should be free to attend to his own extensive personal interests. Apart from Lloyd George, Chamberlain, Churchill, and the Chancellor sums up the situation—always assuming that Labour has, for the present, reached its Parliamentary zenith. Upon that point it would be rash to speculate. If, as is probable, there are three-cornered contests in many of the constituencies at the General Election—owing to the intervention of either Labour or Independent candidates—it is quite possible that, with the constitutional vote split in two, many of the Labour men may slip in, and although they would probably be representatives of minorities, under our present electoral system that fact would in no way affect their Parliamentary strength.

Labour's Interregnum.

Although, however, I fully realise—as I have before said—the possibility of the advent at no distant date of a Labour Government, I have no hesitation in prophesying for it a very short reign. It will be confronted by a battalion of old Parliamentary hands, and doubtless many of its crudities and extravagances would tend to weld together all the saner sections of the House. Meanwhile, so far as the Independents are concerned, I prophesy nothing more than that from year to year their strength and influence will go on growing, but it will take some time yet to eradicate the virus of Party from the political life of the nation. And although one must never be surprised at anything which happens in Parliamentary warfare, I think it is safer for the moment to regard the struggle for ascendancy which will follow the break up of the Coalition as one between a new Constitutional Party on the one hand and the Labourites on the other. It will be an interesting contest to watch. Mr. Lloyd George has the advantage of an overwhelming personality; but, without using the phrase in any offensive sense, he is too plebeian for the old school. Mr. Chamberlain possesses the benefit which always attaches to aloofness, high character and political honesty—with the immense help of a great name. Then there is Mr. Churchill—who has, I believe, already filled practically every office in the State except that of Prime Minister. Now Mr. Churchill is a mystery. Irritable by disposition, impatient of fools, and halting and hesitating as a speaker, he yet inspires by sheer force of brain-power immense enthusiasm—and if the final choice were technically confined to Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Chamberlain I should not be surprised to find—as was the case when it was Austen Chamberlain or Walter Long for the leadership and Mr. Bonar Law was popped in between the two—that the versatile Member for Dundee was awarded the spoils. But—and it is a big but—what about the picturesque figure hovering in the background in the person of Lord Birkenhead? That he has long had his eye on the Premiership is an open secret, although many thought that when he went to the Woolsack he had effectually destroyed his chance, the consensus of opinion being that in these democratic days the public would not tolerate the Prime Minister being in the Upper House. "F. E.," however, takes a long view of things, and it may be safely assumed that one of the provisions of the Bill for the Reform of the Second Chamber will be the right, at any rate, on the part of Ministers, to sit in either House. With that obstacle, therefore, out of the way, the only remaining question is whether, taking everything into consideration, Lord Birkenhead does not possess the best claim for the new leadership. To say that he is universally popular would be false flattery. He is far too clever not to have made many enemies, but he has the knack of winning them over by sheer force of dazzling ability. How coldly the Law Lords received him when he first presided over them! Yet, to-day, the most erudite of them "feed out of his hand." In the same way he has captivated the peers by his overpowering mastery of political problems and by his freshness and courage of outlook. It is said he is the only man under whom Mr. Churchill would be willing to serve in a reconstructed administration, and, having regard to the deep personal attachment existing between the men, I am not surprised to hear it. On the whole, therefore, I should make Lord Birkenhead favourite when Mr. Lloyd George finds himself no longer able to hold his team together, and discovers that there is neither a sufficient mass of Liberalism nor Toryism prepared to stand by him. As regards the Unionists, it may be confidently affirmed that the rank and file will look to their new Leader to press forward Unionist principles and to mould the Coalition policy in accordance with their views. In their heart of hearts, many of them mistrusted the intimacy that existed between Mr. Bonar Law and the Prime Minister, and suspected the late Leader of wavering in his fidelity to the

There were two birds sat on a tree,
They looked as black as black could be,

THE PREMIERSHIP.

...isten's Crazy Pedestal—Spotting the Winner.

...EDITOR.

Unionist cause. To some extent, respect for an established Leader, and regard for his great services to the country, kept them silent, but they will stand no nonsense from Mr. Chamberlain. He must either lead the Party in effective fashion or relinquish the reins. It will depend, of course, on the movements of the Prime Minister, in whose kaleidoscopic career startling developments may yet occur—although personally I incline to the view that his course is nearly run, that he has already had more than enough of politics, and at the end of the present Parliament will be content to retire to the splendour and seclusion of the House of Lords. In the meantime there will, I am certain, be a good deal of friction between the two wings of the Coalition, and, although he may get his way in most matters, Mr. Lloyd George will probably have to part with several of his Liberal associates. Gradually, I think, the Unionist Party will monopolise power and influence within the Coalition, and thus obtain a strong ascendency in the House of Commons. If Mr. Chamberlain can retain their confidence his future is assured. The dazzling prize which so tragically eluded his father's grasp may yet be his. Still there are other possibilities, and exploring the fascinating situation one masterful figure recurs to my mind. I refer to Mr. Winston Churchill, who has lately, we are told, been engaged in the harmless recreation of painting the Pyramids. However, if I know anything of the right hon. gentleman, I fancy he may have found other means of beguiling his recent leisure. It is not improbable that he may have been building "castles in Spain," or, to put the matter more prosaically, imagining himself in Austen's shoes as Leader of the House of Commons. In Mr. Churchill's career imagination has, as a rule, been closely allied to action, and I do not exactly "see" him sitting down quietly under Mr. Chamberlain's leadership. With Mr. Lloyd George it was different. The two men were old political colleagues and close friends, and Mr. Churchill may well have reflected that, in the ordinary course of things, his turn would come. Not so with Austen in the saddle. By different routes the sons of Joseph Chamberlain and of Randolph Churchill have arrived at a similar political standpoint, best denoted by the words "Imperialism" and "Tory Democracy," coined in their fathers' lifetimes to represent a school of political thought which, since the days of Disraeli, has exercised a considerable influence upon British opinion. Probably Mr. Churchill's position is a little peculiar, from the fact that at a critical moment in the fortunes of the Conservative Party he crossed the floor of the House of Commons, and soon afterwards accepted a seat in a Liberal Cabinet. But such trifles do not count in a scion of the Marlboroughs. I am certain that sooner or later he will aspire to the role of leadership, and if asked my candid opinion, I would say that, should Austen fail to please the Tories, they can have Winston for the asking. Failing this, there are other possible lines of advance for this most versatile of Ministers. The Premier may prefer the collaboration of an old and tried colleague to that of the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, and it is just on the cards that a new Centre Party may emerge with Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Churchill as its leading figures. On the whole, however, I think it much more probable that Mr. Churchill will endeavour to keep himself well in the limelight as an alternative Unionist Leader. Yes, Winston may yet be Premier! Even in these democratic days the prestige of a great name counts for much, especially when it is coupled with such gifts of energy and imagination as the Colonial Secretary undoubtedly possesses. Broadly, then, I predict that we shall witness a growing ascendency of Unionist opinion in the counsels of the Coalition, until, if still in power, it becomes almost indistinguishable from a Unionist Administration. And for the leadership of the Party I regard Mr. Churchill as a dangerous rival to Mr. Chamberlain. On the other side of the House we may look for the emergence of a new Labour Party, and the possibility of a Labour Government, which I discussed a week or two ago. It is unlikely that the two-party Coalition, as such, will survive the present Parliament, and in that case a Unionist or a Labour Government are the only alternatives in sight. Until we realise my hope of an Independent Parliament, we must reconcile ourselves to one or other of these two régimes.

For both were envious of the nest
Another little bird possessed.

A Dark Horse.

But there yet remains the Lord Chancellor. I have always taken a peculiar interest in this brilliant lawyer and politician, still young as statesmen go, and I predict for him yet a future which, if no more brilliant than the past, may be more satisfying to his political ambition. I have no hesitation in saying that, but for the accident of promotion that carried him to the Woolsack, he would in all likelihood have stood to-day in the shoes of Mr. Austen Chamberlain. However, it is only the Leadership of the Unionist Party in the House of Commons that has been filled, and there is still a possibility that the Party chieftainship may fall to "F. E.'s" lot. In any case, he is to be reckoned with in discussing the future leadership of a reconstructed Unionist Party. For the moment, the question of the reform of the House of Lords has been deferred, but no doubt the Cabinet will make a determined effort to deal with the problem in the lifetime of the present Parliament, and it is understood that, as I have indicated, among the likely provisions of the amending Bill is a clause empowering Ministers of the Crown to speak in both Houses of Parliament. So Lord Birkenhead may yet realise the ambitions of a lifetime and lead a Democratic Conservative Party. At the same time, it has to be recognised that the electors have a right to give their support to any stable Administration that affords the promise of rigid economy and practical reform. The country is sick and tired of Party strife on the old lines, and will for the future demand in its leaders higher qualities than skill in Party manœuvring and agility in Parliamentary tactics. The whole trend of the times, as the by-elections testify, is towards Independence of thought and action.

In giving publicity on this page to views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters or postcards bearing name and address for publication.

All communications must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.

The PEOPLE'S PULPIT

The readers of "John Bull" discuss matters of Public Interest.

Letters and postcards for this page must relate to public, as distinguished from personal, topics. For short acknowledgments of other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," page 14.

Shareholders' Nominees.

Wishing to find out who held the control of a certain business, I saw at Somerset House the list of directors and shareholders, but, although I knew that a certain person owned nearly two-thirds of the shares, *his name did not appear.* Evidently the enactment that a director shall set out his nationality is easily evaded, by permitting him to hold control through nominees. Legislation should compel the secretary of a company to state who are the real owners of the shares, in order that the public may know with whom they are dealing.—R. L. Leslie, Talbot Road, Bayswater.

(*Trust an alien to find out a way of evasion.*)

The Tin Mine Scandal.

The Cornish Tin Mine industry is of national importance. The Government, with full possession of the facts, refuses to help. The result is that the mines are closing, men are being thrown out of employment, and out-of-work doles will have to be paid in increasing numbers. Why cannot the Government ascertain the weekly doles which will become necessary in the case of each such closed mine, subsidise the Company to that amount, and thus enable it to keep the mine running and save honest workers the indignity of becoming "State paupers"?—Geo. W. Wherry, Rosslyn Park Road, Plymouth.

(*Perhaps if the Companies were content with a little less profit, no Government subsidy would be necessary.*)

Work and Wages.

Every loyal worker, instead of being led away by paid and revolutionary agitators, should seriously consider what reduction in his own wages he could reasonably bear, and whether an extension of working hours would not equally benefit himself and his country. No one wishes the labour market to be reduced to anything like the pre-war rates, but the effect of the thumbscrew by which agitators in the Trades Unions have forced wages to their present height has been to wreck our trades, strangle our commerce and produce unemployment. Surely "half a loaf is better than none."—A. G. Barker, Green Lanes, N.

(*Every loyal worker will agree to a reasonable reduction in his wages as the cost of living falls, but he has a suspicion that some hidden influence is keeping prices up to a higher level than is justified by costs.*)

Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. Walburn.

Marriage Law Reform.

The Home Secretary has again stated that he would not entertain legislation on the "Deceased Husband's Brother" question. Why should such dictatorial powers be put into one man's hands, instead of it being thrashed out in Parliament? They who passed the "Deceased Wife Sister's Bill" should have no scruples in passing this very necessary measure.—T. W. H. Beesley, Primrose Row, Courtney Street, Hull, Yorks.

(*The Government will not much longer be able to resist the public demand for this necessary reform.*)

Labour's Pro-German Policy.

The Labour Party's disapproval of the penalties imposed upon Germany rouses the indignation of the British public and the glee of the Huns. Let Messrs. Clynes and Maclean pay a visit to their constituents and get their view of the situation. If this is in favour of drastic action being taken against Germany to ensure payment, these gentlemen should resign their seats, as the first duty of a Member of Parliament is to represent those who elected him.—R. Walburn, Northallerton, Yorks.

The Coal Crisis.

If the coalowners are really anxious to agree to a profit-sharing scheme with their workmen, here is a brief suggestion. After making allowance for depreciation and placing a reasonable amount to a sinking fund for developments and cases of emergency, the owners to receive first interest on capital not exceeding prevailing bank rate of interest, then out of surplus profits Capital to receive 2 per cent., Labour 1 per cent., or share surplus equally. By doing so the Nationalisation bogey would vanish, developments would be pressed forward, and unemployment reduced to a minimum in a very short time.—M. Lynch, Saltergate, Chesterfield.

(*We are strongly in favour of a profit-sharing scheme.*)

Council School Caligraphy.

In a number of the Council schools in the Midlands children are taught to *print* and not to write. I know several children at the age of 13 years who are unable to write their own name properly, but slowly and painfully "print" them. Imagine what office work will be like in the future!—J. A. Jones, Causeway Green Road, near Birmingham.

(*In the future, everyone will carry a pocket typewriter, and calligraphy will become a lost art.*)

Posts and Postage.

Thousands of unemployed are unable to make application for situations that are advertised through the lack of funds for postage. Could not the Ministry of Labour and the Postmaster-General assist in this matter by permitting the unemployed to submit their applications through their departments free?—G. Simmonds, Hackney Road, Maidstone, Kent.

(*A general reduction in the cost of inland postage would help everybody, the unemployed included.*)

Everest—or Earl's Court.

In these times it is wicked waste to expend large sums of money on such expeditions as the attempt to climb Mount Everest. Even if it succeeds, the practical benefits which would accrue to mankind are questionable—or nil. The money could be far more usefully expended, say, in the purchase of Earl's Court Exhibition grounds, now derelict, and their conversion into a recreation park for the children of the congested district adjoining.—John Drew, Florence Road, Wimbledon, S.W.

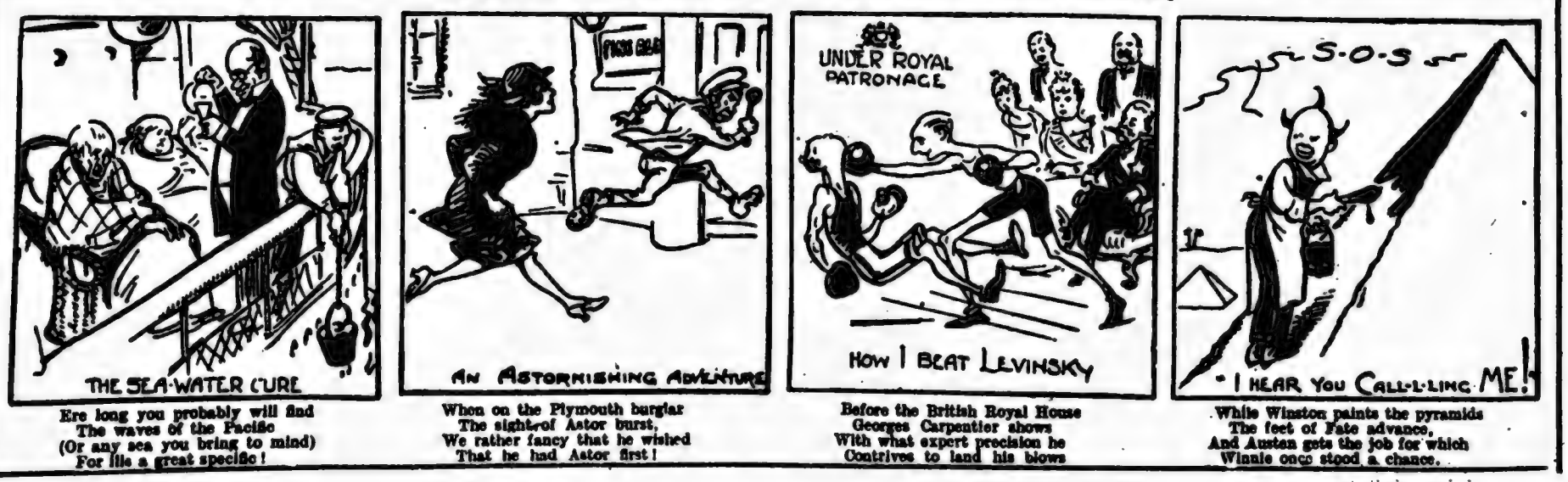
(*Apparently useless scientific expeditions sometimes prove of immense benefit to mankind.*)

Happy Hamburg.

A business man I know has just returned from Hamburg. He is amazed and astounded at the order, prosperity and general sense of affluence throughout the country. No strikes, or rumours of strikes, 50 to 60-hour week, taxes practically nil. Everything is very dear, but to meet this difficulty *foreigners who enter the country are charged double for everything.* A similar tax in this country would benefit us all, especially our boys who fought for it!—Miss G. Gray, Taybridge Road, Clapham, S.W.

(*We don't quite see how it would benefit our ex-Servicemen if shopkeepers charged double prices to foreigners. It would simply be a bonus for traders.*)

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.



Ere long you probably will find
The waves of the Pacific
(Or any sea you bring to mind)
For life a great specific!

When on the Plymouth burglar
The sight of Astor burst,
We rather fancy that he wished
That he had Astor first!

Before the British Royal House
Georges Carpentier shows
With what expert precision he
Contrives to land his blows

While Winston paints the pyramids
The feet of Fate advance,
And Austen gets the job for which
Winnie once stood a chance.

All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

By OUR CITY EDITOR

Each inquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

Obstinate Bureaucracy.

The Stock Exchange has seldom been more annoyed than by the decision of the Minister of Transport to contest the verdict of the Railway and Canal Commissioners in the North British Railway case. It is impossible to discover any substantial reason for quarrelling with the award, but it is evident that the severe lecture which was administered to the head of the Transport Ministry has offended his *amour propre*, and he is trying to get back on the innocent victims of his arbitrary action by threatening appeal to the House of Lords.

Commercial Law.

We are indebted to Messrs. Michael Abrahams and Co., the City solicitors, for an opportunity of reading the full judgment in the recent case before the Court of Appeal, in which it was held that a bank's debt to its customer does not accrue until notice requiring payment has been given, and that consequently the Statute of Limitations does not begin to operate until the date of such notice. This is a new and far-reaching interpretation of the law, and it would be interesting to see whether the House of Lords upholds it.

A Prosperous Company.

Mappin and Webb, the old established jewellers and silversmiths, last year had an turnover which considerably exceeded that of any previous period in the Company's history. Net profits amounted to £106,000, or very nearly £20,000 more than in the previous twelve months. The dividend is maintained at 15 per cent., in spite of the fact that £400,000 fresh capital was issued towards the end of the year.

Far-Sighted Policy.

In addition to writing off the expenses of the new capital issued, amounting to £20,800, reserve gets £20,000 and the goodwill account has been reduced by £10,000, after which £38,500 remains to be carried forward. Stocks at £755,000 are stated to be valued on a very conservative basis, and that this policy must have been adopted in the past seems to be proved by the fact that the results for last year would not have been so satisfactory if stocks had been taken at the boom level before reaction in trade in the latter part of the year.

Diamond Cut Diamond.

Diamond shares have been dropping steadily of late, and the condition of the market for the precious stones is of a most depressing character. Not only has the demand fallen off very severely, but large quantities of Russian stolen goods have been on offer in most European and American centres. In the meantime the taxation in South Africa, from which the great bulk of the stones is derived, is pressing very heavily on the industry, and several mines are being closed down or working on very short time. An appeal has been made to the South African Government to offer some temporary relief, but I am not very hopeful that anything important can be expected in this direction. The diamond industry has made such huge profits in the past that it can probably afford far better than most others to withstand a period of depression and, as in many other cases, bad years must be averaged with the good before any case can be made out for special treatment.

Straker Squire.

It is a great pity that a fine business like Straker Squire finds itself in the uncomfortable position of having to reorganise its finances. Holders of the Ordinary will apparently have to submit to a reduction of 75 per cent. in the nominal value of their shares, and at the same time an issue of £180,000 in 8 per cent. First Debenture stock will be put in front of them. Moreover £420,000 of Second Debentures, carrying 10 per cent., will be created which the creditors of the Company are asked to accept. It is far from being a satisfying arrangement from any point of view, but having regard to the condition of the industry and its immediate propects there is little chance of any better scheme being devised. But it looks as though the Ordinary shareholders would have to wait a long time for dividends.

Mexican Eagle Prospects.

It is satisfactory to find that the agents of the Mexican Eagle Company have taken notice of the very serious adverse rumours which were in circulation last week about the condition of the properties. It is frankly admitted that there has been a considerable influx of salt water into some of the wells, which are thereby rendered useless, but this is no new experience, and, as a matter of fact, most of the wells which have been the best producers in the past have succumbed to similar conditions at the end of seven or eight years. However, the Company has still an enormous reserve area to develop, and, as its policy has always been to keep drilling far ahead of its immediate requirements, there need be no anxiety about any important diminution in output in the near future.

Advertisers' Announcements.

COMPANY MEETING.

MAPPIN & WEBB

Presiding at the meeting of Mappin & Webb, Ltd. (Goldsmiths, Silversmiths and Jewellers), Mr. William Harris said that when they met a year ago he told the shareholders that the balance-sheet then presented was the finest ever issued by the Company, but that which they were now considering was even better. They were paying a dividend of 15 per cent., writing off the balance of the expenses of the new issue of shares, amounting to £20,800, transferring £20,000 to the general reserve, which would raise that fund to £50,000, reducing the goodwill account by £10,000, and carrying forward the substantial sum of £38,490. He was sure these figures would be received with satisfaction. (Applause.) All their establishments had contributed to the profits of the year. The London houses, Sheffield, Paris, Nice, Monte Carlo, Biarritz, Rome, Lausanne, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Johannesburg, and Montreal had all helped to this splendid result.

NORWAY.

PLEASURE CRUISES

VISITING FINEST FJORDS, by s.s. "ORMUZ," 14,167 tons,

of the

ORIENT LINE.

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NAT GOULD

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TOMMY, JACK, AND BADGERS.

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheese-paring, shall go unchallenged or unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

A New Regulation:—An Army Order states that soldiers re-enlisting into the Army, Royal Marines, or R.A.F. after having been discharged from previous service by purchase, will not obtain any refund of the money paid for their discharge if their new enlistment is for less than three years with the Colours.

Quite Right, Too!:—Another Order just issued provides for an increase of the special campaign pensions granted to discharged European soldiers who received a war medal while serving in the Regular Army, who have attained the age of 65, and whose weekly income, apart from Army pension, does not exceed 19s.

And You, Navy!:—Emulating the War Office Embroidery Department, where there are salaried men who must justify their existence by making idiotic recommendations concerning dress, you have abolished Jack's wide-brimmed straw hat for use in the tropics in exchange for a solar topee, or "mud pot." You who have made the Order in Whitehall, are you not aware that the Tar's straw hat can give the helmet miles and a beating for lightness and for the prevention of sunstroke? Pshaw! What fools run even our Navy! Sack the lot!

A Poser:—The North Staffords left India for the Soudan over 15 months ago. They ask us when they will receive their records of accounts from there. We don't know. As a matter of fact, discharged men have been home for over *two years* and cannot get the money due to them, owing to the Oriental laziness of the native clerks who are entrusted with the Pay Office work out there. Goodness knows, we have done our best in Parliament and in JOHN BULL to have matters remedied.

Some Hope:—The political cards are being re-shuffled, and we note that Lord Derby is to be asked to return to the War Office as Secretary of State. We do hope that he will accept. He was the man for efficiency in the Army, and the most sympathetic Chief that the "common" Tommy ever had. We have reason to know it.

Don't all Shout!:—A patient in the Park Howard Hospital at Llanelly wants to know how many colliers (excluding conscripts) enlisted in Lord Kitchener's Army in 1915-1916. We give it up right on the spot; but perhaps some military Datas is in a position to give the man the information he requires. Possibly a small bet hangs in the balance!

Trapped—Through Ignorance:—We have complaints from men in India who were asked if they would like to have a furlough home to England, and some accepted. On getting back they are "docked" their return fare. The new officers are probably not aware of paragraph 1313 of King's Regulations, which lays down that "the soldier before proceeding on furlough from India must deposit with his O.C. a sufficient sum of money to provide for his return passage." We are in full sympathy with the Tommies who gladly snapped at the chance of a holiday, not knowing the Order, and have become victims of their commanding officers' ignorance.

Our Daily "Thank You":—From J. A. Mac., Govan:—"Please find enclosed small donation for your War Sufferers' Fund. I am much indebted to you for obtaining my pension, which I have received after having written for months about it, my own efforts proving unsuccessful until you took up my case. Many thanks for your kind interest."

RACING NOTES.

(All enquiries in respect of sporting matters will be dealt with in the correspondence columns of the SPORTING LIFE.)

The Next Big Handicap.

Corn Sack having stripped devoid of all muscle in the Lincolnshire Handicap, his preparation for that race was, seemingly, a light and hurried one. That being the case, we shall anticipate his running a vastly better horse in the next big handicap—the City and Suburban. We were fairly on the mark when recommending Senhora for place honours at Lincoln, but even improved on that when making Shaun Spadah our Selected for the "National" and The Bore his most dangerous opponent.

Three-Year-Old Classic Fillies.

His Majesty the King has Ridicule in the One Thousand Guineas, though up to the present we have heard little that is encouraging about the Egerton House filly. We nevertheless learn that Blue Lady, Pompadour, Tetrabbazia, Barrulet and Nymphida have gone quite the right way since their two-year-old days. Taylor will have a strong hand in the "Ladies'."

WEEK'S SELECTIONS.

LEICESTER—WEDNESDAY.
Three-year-old Handicap—EAGLESWELL.
Gopsall Plate—SUNNYGAMA.
Oadby Plate—*DEJA THORRIS.

LEICESTER—THURSDAY.
Worksop Plate—*WOODFORD GREEN.
Syston Handicap—MARCH ALONG.
Glen Plate—JENNY LANTERN FILLY.

CATTERICK BRIDGE—FRIDAY.
New Stand Handcap—*MOUNT LEBANON
Catterick Welter—DOUBLE GLORY.

CATTERICK BRIDGE—SATURDAY.
Grove Handicap—*GAY LORD.

ALEXANDRA PARK—SATURDAY.
Three-year-old Handicap—*CAPSTAN.
Alexandra Welter—FLINT JACK.
Palace Handicap—CYLVIDA.

"The Greatest of These—"

(Registered under the War Charities Act as the JOHN BULL *War Sufferers' Fund.)*

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

After Thirteen Years:—A man who served in the Army for thirteen years and is now demobilised, like so many others cannot find work—or help from other Funds.

A Cuckoo's Victim:—Returned from the Service, a man with a wife and young family finds a shirker in his job. The out-of-work dole is his sole income, and his help meet is to be confined.

Sold His Home:—Another ex-soldier who is about to be presented with an additional olive branch, had sold practically his whole belongings when he asked us for relief.

Illness and Distress:—An old soldier, who is past his work, has a delicate wife and two children who were ill and were hungry until we were applied to.

In Her Loneliness:—A widow had one son whom she gave to the Navy. His ship went down, but she cannot obtain an allowance, and her only income is her Old Age Pension.

The System's Cruelty:—An ex-soldier could not find work, and therefore was unable to pay his rates. A kindly cadi sent him to jail for seven days, and his wife and four necessitous little children were hungrily awaiting his return when we despatched help.

The Newcomers:—Once more, any baby clothes to send us for the little arrivals of the poor? The demand is great—the supply is very small. Thank you!

DEPRAVITY—AND OUR VIGILANCE.

These lines are intended to show you to what depths of depravity some of those who will not accept work but make a living out of the various charitable funds will sink. They are induced by a Bermondsey woman who one day recently sent her "distressing case" from one address and the next day sent precisely the same application from another address in the neighbourhood, under a different name! This is an old "stunt," but we circumvent it, as we keep a file of letters of application, and an index of names and addresses. You see, a woman obtains a grant now, and next week indents for another few pounds, but fearing that we may remember her original address asks a friend in another neighbourhood to accept a registered letter on her behalf. In every case we immediately "spot" the deception, and at once black-mark the applicant. We may say that Bermondsey and Fulham contain the bulk of the offenders.

Then, very many ex-soldiers who have been just demobilised or who were demobilised some time ago visit us and tell us doleful tales of the alleged cruel ways of the Army Pay authorities, who owe them much money that they cannot obtain, winding up the yarn by asking for help out of our Fund. As they have no proof, we supply them with a letter to the Pay Department of the War Office, where they get sympathetic consideration and any money they are entitled to if they are in the right. But only about one in ten takes the letter to Whitehall, which proves that the majority of those "ill-treated" men, who mostly show traces of "the night before," are frauds who think that lyingly blackguarding a War Office Department is sufficient to magnetise money from our Fund into their own pockets.

We help the *genuinely* distressed and turn away the useless wrong ones. And how many genuinely distressed there are! Help us to help them.

Remember that we cheerfully bear the full weight of the cost of administration, which is great and is still growing.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE FUND.

W. C. (Bo'ness), 5s.; M. E. M. (Bristol), 10s.; E. S. (Worthing), 2s. 6d.; J. B. (Perth), 1s.; B. A. S., 2s.; "Dad, Mum, Gran and Kids," 5s.; Mrs. M. A. B. (Manor Park), 10s.; "Bumble Bee," 10s.; J. E. P. (Grantham), 2s. 6d.; Anon. (Norwood), 6d.; F. K., 6s.; J. F. & R. G. (Well Hall), 11s.; "Winox Winner," 2s.; M. M. J., 2s.; Anon., 1s.; "In Loving Memory of Fred and Frank, From a Lonely Old Mother," 2s. 6d.; "X.Y.Z." (Waterford), £1; "For Mercies Received," £5; A. C. (Walton-on-Naze), 2s. 6d.; S. J. H. (Stockport), 1s. 4d.; D. S. R. 5s.; "De W." 5s.; "Swansea Lass," 2s.; "Doreen," 3s. 6d.; K. E. M., £1; W. F., 2s.; D. O. T. (Chiswick), 10s.; "A Mother," 5s.; "Resolution," 1s.; "Bullet Competitor," 6d.; E. H., 6d.; J. L. (Bury), 6d.; E. E. W. (India), £1 10s.; A. K. (Bridge-of-Weir), £1; Frampton Brick Workers, Hackney (per J. W. L.), 5s.; J. H. (Dublin), 4s.; Mrs. N. R. (India), £1; H. B. C. (Kilburn), 5s.; "Punch," 10s.; "A Wellwisher" (Wembley), 2s. 6d.; Pte. W. W. (Netley), 4d.; E. M. S. (Peterborough), 3s. 4d.; W. T. (Sheffield), 1s.; J. B. (Clerkenwell), 1s.; C. G. (Birmingham), 1s.; Mrs. A. McC., 7d.; G. W. G. (Edinburgh), 10s.; A. L. P. (Sale), 2s. 6d.; D. R. (Glasgow), 1s.; "Poodles," 2s. 6d.; W. J. (Blandford), 1s.; M. W. (Thornton Heath), 2s. 6d.; British Overseas Club, Berkeley (per E. J.), £2 12s.; "Every Little Helps" 5s.; P. C. (Sunderland), 2s. 6d.; S. E. (Shotley), £1; "Bubbles," 6d.; J. B. (Camberwell), 1s.; Anon., 2s.; "Rattler," 6s.; J. T. (Arbroath), £1; J. M. C. (Usworth), 1s.; H. P. E. S. (Wood Green), 5s.; V. W. (Brighton), 10s.; S. C. (Penge), 3s.; M. F., parcel; L. C., 5s.; A. C. (Crouch Hill), 1s. and parcel; G. P., 6d.; E. C., 6d.; P. E. J., 1s.; W. E. H. (Helmsley), 6d.; H. D. (Glasgow), 5s.; T. E. D., 6d.; C. M. B., 6d.; J. A., 6d.; J. S., 1s.; E. E. (Canterbury), 1s.; E. J. T. (Faversham), 2s.; Mrs. A. S. (Morington), 2s. 6d.; Mr. C. (Weston-super-Mare), 1s.; J. H. (Glasgow), 2s. 6d.; G. W. W., £3; E. W. (Dundee), 2s. 6d.; A. F. N. (Biggleswade), 2s. 6d.; "Grantham," 2s.; "Fiat Justitia," 5s.; "Christine" (Watford), 5s.; "Our Frank," 2s. 6d.; W. T. S. (Chiswick), 1s.; J. L. (Hastings), 4s.; "A Sympathiser," 10s.; "Trix," 2s.; "W.," £1; W. & A. L. (Forest Gate), 5s.; L. F. (Luton), 2s. 6d.; T. H. N. (Acton), 5s.; W. H. W. (Brixton), 17s.; O. St. J. (Alberta), $10.75 and 10s.; A. W. (Canterbury), 1s.; C. S. (Ilford), 5s.; "Ole Bill" 5s.; F. M. (Kettering), 2s. 2d.; W. J. E. (New York), 2 dollars; "Celt," £1; A. E. de L. (Streatham), £1 1s.; R. J. S. (Folkestone), 5s.; E. D. (Caerphilly), 1s.; P. C. (Derby), 2s.; "Widow's Mite" (Sleaford), 2s. 6d.; "Hamish," 2s.; H. E. B. (Louisville, U.S.A.), 10s.; W. P. (Roehampton), £5; Mrs. T. J. B. W. (Singapore), £3; A. McC. (Glasgow), 10s.; "Little Kathleen," 2s. 6d.; Anon. (Glasgow), 2s. 6d.; A. W. R. (Brecknockshire), 2s. 6d.; E. B. S. (Leeds), 10s.; M. A. N. (Portsmouth), 10s.; "Harry and Roy" (Whetstone), 5s.; M.R. W. (Thirsk), 1s. and parcel; E. D. (South Woodford), 5s.; A. E. L. (Ontario), 1 dollar; F. E. W., 1s.; "South Ealing Reader," 2s.; Mrs. A. F. (Norwich), 1s.; W., £1; W. F. (Cambridge), 10s.; W. G. T., 1s.; M. B. (Bedford), 1s. 6d.; Mrs. S. H., £1; "Nottingham Admirer," 2s.; C. L. W. (Exeter), 1s.; G. W. (Lancaster), 5s.; A. R. (Stockton), 5s.; Mrs. S. J. C. (Milton), 1s.; G. W. F. (Cyam), 10s.; "Regular Reader" (Erith), 1s.; "In Memory of Pat," 4s.; J. J. (Newport), 5s.; Anon., 6d.; B. S. (Southwick), 2s. 6d.; "Mother of Six" (Warwick), 2s. and parcel; "In Memoriam" (Stamford Hill), 5s.; "The Interested One," 2s.

(Further acknowledgments unavoidably held over.)

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"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance. For a reply by post on personal subjects, a twopenny stamped envelope must be enclosed.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C.2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full name and address should be given.*

J. T. (Sunderland).—We certainly did the Germans well at the Savoy. But if the Premier hadn't been gingered up they might be here still guzzling at our expense.

L. W. (France).—Hear, hear! Perish the passports between England and r uce! They are a needless annoyance. Belgium is showing the way.

S. J. (Bayswater).—"The huts should remain to remind us of Government squandering." We don't need any other reminders than Tax Collectors.

C. S. K. (The Strand, Capetown).—Thanks for cutting. We hope to go down *your* Strand one of these days, even if we don't get a banana!

"MY LADY" (Coldstream).—"Please do not mention that I have written you. Believe me, I have a good reason for saying this." Then why did you ever take the trouble to write? Try it on the local Income Tax Collector.

"EX-CORPORAL" (Liverpool). — Now that a good Samaritan landlord has turned up and found you a shelter, we should be inclined to let sleeping dogs lie—they generally do.

J. H. B. (Blackheath).—If Ramsay Macdonald were to win our Football Prize of £1,000, he would receive the cash just the same as any ordinary, patriotic competitor.

P. P. R. (Auckland, N.Z.).—If, as you say, in New Zealand "there is a settled determination to take large wages for little work," it is against all the laws of economics for living to be cheaper there "than in any other country, China possibly excepted." You must have struck a soft patch.

Miss D. L. B. (Burton - on - Trent).—We consider that six strokes of the birch-rod was a most suitable punishment for a 14-year-old boy who robbed a little girl of threepence in the street.

"NIL DESPERANDUM" (Cardiff).—Don't forget that the already over-burdened ratepayers have to pay for the two extra shifts put on by the Cardiff Corporation to relieve unemployment, and that half a loaf is better than an aching void.

F. E. (Chowbent). — "These 'German' cards are sold in ½d. bags with about 3 or 4 sweets." We thought the last ½d. article was secured by the British Museum years ago!

W. F. (N.U.T.).—"See advert. 'Woman wants washing and cleaning.'" Thanks for the offer, but we are not a laundry.

F. L. (Brockley).—"I feel you will agree with me that gentleness is not a feature of your greatness." Feel again.

MISS C. D. (Waltham Green). "Why are ducks' eggs some green and some white?" Probably *for* the same reason that some ladies are dark and others fair.

A. G. (Epsom).—"I believe you have assisted more than a few through your valuable periodical. Not much hope, though, for a lunatic, I fear." Try us, dear friend.

D. J. DE M. (York).—Football betting "bookies" and their unsolicited circulars sent through the post are a pest. The law forbids straightforward lotteries, but allows the Government to profit from the pernicious trash referred to.

"CONSTANT READER."—"Is it not time something was done in Edinburgh to stop the police from arresting innocent people?" Is it more urgent in Edinburgh than elsewhere?

H. M. (Aldershot).—"I was glad to see in your paper an article on 'Emigrants to Ruin.'" The pleasure was mutual.

D. J. O'M.—The address of the *Freethinker* is 61, Farringdon Street, London, E.C., and although it is called "free" it costs 2d.

C. P. (Cologne).—"Who is responsible for British ex-soldiers working on the Rhine under the same conditions and wages as German labourers?" What *did* you have for supper?

"WESTMINSTER" (Edinboro').—"Edinboro' is the East - windiest and West-endiest place in the world." May be true, but it sounds like the latest speech-test for sobriety!

M. J. (Cardiff).—"Is it not possible to induce the Government to extend to 1923?" Why not offer them a "Life - Membership" and be done with it?

LT.-COL. HURST (Weybridge). — "The new order must be men and measures up-to-date, efficiency, economy, and freedom, then the present unrest will disappear and the labourer will be worthy of his hire." Hear! Hear! Also Amen.

"YORKSHIREMAN" (Northallerton).—A famous bishop said the State could not be conducted on the principles of the Sermon on the Mount?. Human nature seems unequal to the task.

F. J. D. (Mespot).—"Please accept this little greeting from the boys to wish you a Merry Xmas." You must have missed a post or two.

N. P. (Norwood).—"To which Party does Lloyd George belong? Answer: Both." Both of the three?

"ONE WHO THINKS" (Blackpool).—Not so sure whether you do or not. Even if the £2,000 were spent in finding employment for men in sweeping the roads, £2,000 would probably still have to be expended on a roadsweeper, which is a money-saving device.

M. M. (Bedale).—You take too gloomy a view of things altogether. If you want to see the sun you must come out of the coal cellar.

D. P. (Carlisle).—Pessimism is a mental disease. It helps to happiness if, with Tennyson, we "trust that somehow good will be the final goal of ill."

S. R. P. (London).—We can't say you were too heavily fined. Your driving was like unto the driving of Jehu, the son of Nimshi, who drove furiously.

"SHORT GRASS" (Brownstown, Ireland).—"What does the Government mean by employing no one on the National Stud, Kildare, except a set of Sinn Feiners?" If we knew we'd tell you.

"BACHELOR" (Birmingham). — Oh, dear, no; you won't catch us advising you on that proposition. Bacon said that wives are young men's mistresses, middle-aged men's companions, and old men's nurses.

"REGULAR" (London).—"The enclosed may interest you, and it also deserves a little publicity which it may get by insertion in your paper." Thanks.

H. E. J. (Woolwich).—Afraid in the circs. you'll have to put up with such accommodation as the landlord lets you have for the money.

G. M. W. (New York City).—"Your paper is interesting from cover to cover. Some very witty little sayings are worth reading." That's why we write 'em.

D. L. (Nr. Glasgow).—"Why is it so few of our Labour leaders have "Patriot" to their names?" Possibly because they see no virtue in patriotism.

G. O. (Harpenden).—Personally, we should think it a cruel thing to do. The merciful man doeth good to his own soul, but he that is cruel troubleth his own flesh.

C. C. (S. Wigston).—The answer to your question is that the Rent Act, like the sun, shineth alike on the just and the unjust.

"CHEERIO" (Blackburn).—"I just feel like I would like to pat your back." Thanks. We'll imagine you've patted.

"ONE OF THE MUGS" (M. of P. Hospital).—You may be; but that's no reason why you should drink the tea.

"AMERICAN" (Chicago).—"Wouldn't it be good for civilisation if Uncle Sam took charge of Armenia?" It would be better for civilisation if Uncle Sam took his share of the war's aftermath burdens.

"BLACK WATCH" (Lochee).—You have never seen or heard "a single word of praise for the many parts we played on our country's behalf in the hour of her greatest need"? We have seen and heard so many that our head would have swelled "wisibly" had we been made that way.

"NEW CROSS" (London).—"What is the Farmers' Union for if they allow these huge profits to be made by wholesalers and retailers out of cabbages?" You might as well ask us why does the cauliflower?

D. R. (Tring).—No doubt we are pretty well out of the wood, for lo, the winter is passed, the flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in the land!

"WITH BITTER MEMORIES" (Padstow).—We agree with you that, as far as dealings in Hun goods are concerned, many British people have forgotten there was once a war on.

MRS. W. (Hull).—You have not offended us, madam. That would be difficult in the case of any lady.

T. M. (Gorton).—"Permit me to point out a few of your inconsistencies and offer a few remarks." Your few remarks do not need our permission, and our few inconsistencies do not need yours.

W. S. M. (Clapton).—Can't agree with you that blackmail cases should be heard *in camera*. The blackmailer is a social pest who cannot be too widely exposed.

"JACK" (Dundee).—"At Kingennie, a few miles from here, we have two girls doing at the railway station the work a man did in pre-war times." Another case of *place aux dames*.

P. P. (Kingsway).—What do we think of ourselves? We think we're neither too bad nor too good. "Virtuous and vicious every man must be, Few in th' extreme, but all in the degree."

A. P. (Reading).—Sir, your sentiments would adorn a copy book and grace a pulpiteer.

W. M. B. (Elgin).—"Publish the name of every man and woman drawing unemployment dole. The list would diminish by tens of thousands the first week after publication." The unemployment dole has its evils and its cost, but it is cheaper than revolution.

S. K. (Bethnal Green).—"You know the old saying. You know who I mean. Every dog has his day." And every cat her night out.

L. W. (Liverpool).—For a Liverpool newspaper to declare that "If there is a bed still not spoken for, there must be something seriously the matter with it," and then to publish a long list of apartments advertisements in an adjacent column, was surely the height of cynicism.

E. A. (Rochdale).—"Pro - German Ramsay must have had a hand in these cards 'Printed in Germany.'" No; the verses start "Smile! —."

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

READERS ARE INVITED TO VISIT THE

JOHN BULL PEN DEPOTS:

19, LUDGATE HILL E.C. 265, STRAND, W.C. (Adjoining Law Courts).
323, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
72 NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.
1, CANNON STREET STATION APPROACH, E.C.

WHERE THE FULL RANGE OF . . . **JOHN BULL PENS**

CAN BE INSPECTED AND TESTED.

"JOHN BULL" Pen Coupon Value 2d.

By sending this coupon with P.O. for 3/3, and 2d. stamps for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a "JOHN BULL" Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen, STANDARD MODEL. Additional Coupons up to 6 from "JOHN BULL," from this date, may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 2d. off the price. Thus you may send 7 coupons and P.O. for 2/3 only, and 2d. stamps for postage.

DE LUXE MODEL, 4/3 Extra.

Address, Pen Dept., JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. *April 2nd, 1921.*

P.O. should be made payable to "John Bull" and crossed & Co.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

EVERY PEN IS GUARANTEED.

£1 1s. PRIZES will be awarded to readers sending best alternative 2-line verses for any of the articles shown below. One prize each week for each article. Any number of attempts may be sent, but each must be written on a separate postcard.

Similar Competitions in *Passing Show* and *London Mail*, in which *John Bull* readers may compete.

FAMILIAR PACKAGES and Trade Marks

54 GUINEA PRIZES.

All verses become the property of "John Bull." Decision of Advertisement Manager to be final. Address: Familiar Packages No. 12, Advt. Dept., "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.

Latest date for this week: April 4th

ANZORA

CREAM and VIOLA

Both Master the Hair

1/6 & 2/6,

From all Chemists & Hairdressers.

Advice isn't always welcomed, but the man who recommends Anzora to his fellows, makes a host of grateful friends.

Anzora Beta-Napthol Soap Powdered—the finest Shampoo.

He said "Come into the garden, Maud, Next door they are playing a Winner Record."

Messrs. Nestlé will award an extra Guinea to the winner of this couplet.

IDEAL MILK

6½d. Per Tin.

1/- Per Large Tin.

MILK, whole MILK, and nothing but MILK three times richer in cream than ordinary milk.

REFUSE IMITATIONS.

Ideal Milk gained greatest fame, when it answered its Country's call;
Now it's duty done, lasting honours won,
It serves at home for all.

Oh! Mackintosh's Toffee,
I clasp thee to my breast,
But alas the tin was empty,
Someone knew which was best.

Little Jack Horner sat in a corner, looking as pleased as could be,
His mother, good soul, on a nice home-made roll
was spreading the Brito, you see.

BRITO MARGARINE

The Nation's Choice.

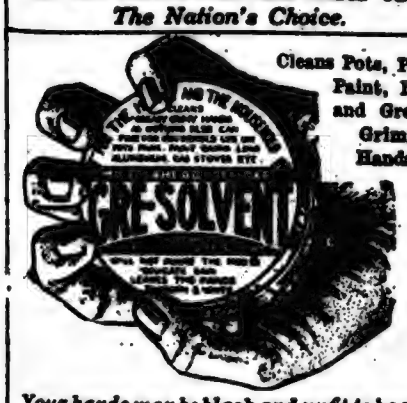
When we were boys we found our joys in toffee good or otherwise,
Now we are men of wiser ken, Sharp's Super-Kreem our money buys.

The art of Substitution some foolish Grocers ply;
But insist upon Cremola, he'll know the reason why.

CREAMOLA

The Queen of Custards.

Though Bovril makes the ox look small
It makes "Young England" strong and tall!



Cleans Pots, Pans Paint, Lino and Greasy Grimy Hands.

Your hands may be black and unfit to be seen
One minute — Gre-solvent — behold they are clean.

"I," said the Brush, "am the rifle employed to fight the scourge of teeth decay;"
"But I," said Eucryl, "am the cartridge they use, without which you're nothing, you jay!"
Eucryl

History once more repeats itself, the Dane's again supreme;
Before, it was his navy, but now it's "Dano" Cream.

"DANO"

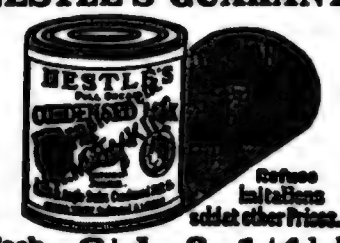
PURE RICH DANISH PASTURE CREAM

"The Cream of Denmark's Best."

1/4 per 6 oz. tin. 2/2 per 12 oz. tin.

Messrs. Nestlé will award an extra Guinea to the winner of this couplet.

NESTLÉ'S GUARANTEE



Refuse Imitations and accept other Prices.

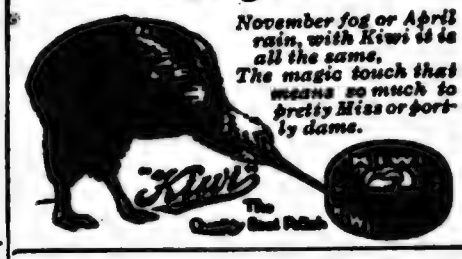
Cash Prices **8½d. & 1/4½** Per Tin.

"Nestle" has been a household word,
In England many a year,
His cows are Swiss, and (sounds absurd)
The calves are "built up" here!

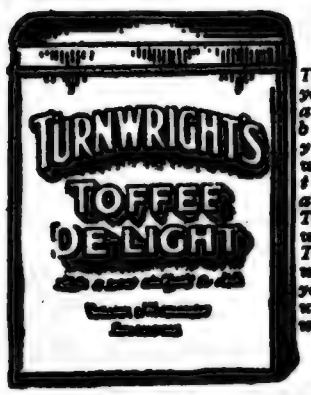
There's no time like the present,
That you must allow,
And an ideal present is Clarnico—
So go and get it now.

"Kiwi" Any shade of Brown desired and Black of all Dealers.

The Quality Boot Polish



November fog or April rain, with Kiwi it is all the same.
The magic touch that means so much to pretty Miss or portly dame.



They say that your dreams are mostly based, on your last waking thoughts at night.
Take Turnwright's Toffee to bed with you, and your dreams will be filled with delight.

"The Light" is sought in many ways.
By various sects and creeds,
Why don't they try a "Cosmos,"
For that supplies all needs.

DRI-PED
REG'D

The Super Leather for Soles.

Had Raleigh been alive to-day,
There's not the slightest doubt.
Knowing "Dri-ped's" resisting power,
He'd have left the "cloak stunt" out.

See the "DRI-PED" diamond, stamped in purple every few inches on each sole. There is no unstamped "DRI-PED."

Owing to the Holidays and our having to close for press earlier than usual, the Result of No. 10 Competition (dated March 19th) will be announced in our issue of April 9th.

They seized the "Drummer," quickly stripped him, "dye" you shall they cried.
They filled a bucket, dropped him in, that's how the "Drummer" dyed.

DRUMMER DYES

Halve the Dress Bill.

BULLETS

2nd Prize £20
10 Prizes of £5
10 Prizes of £2 10/-
25 Prizes of 10/-

£250 FIRST PRIZE

3rd Prize £10
100 Prizes of 5/-
500 Prizes of 2/6
2000 TARGET PRIZES

2,000 POPULAR NOVELS

NEXT WEEK "BULLETS" FIRST PRIZE WILL BE INCREASED TO £1,000.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Thirty-two examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. This example will guide you :—
Example :—FAIR FIGHT. Bullet :—FOR SEAT IN PARLIAMENT. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used, an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 408.

MAN OF ACTION	WHEN FUNDS ARE LOW	FORGIVE AND FORGET	OUR MOTTO
GERMANY'S MASTER	CONTENTED WITH LOT	WON'T RETURN	HEAVEN ON EARTH
MUST NOT BE	CHEERING	MAKING THINGS BETTER	WISE WOMAN
PICTURE OF INNOCENCE	WIN OR LOSE	GROWING RAPIDLY	ON WRONG ROAD
PAY UP	CRACKING UP	A HUGE JOKE	A WARM MEMBER
A ROUGH PASSAGE	A RARE BIRD	A BUSYBODY	HELPING
MARRIED	REIGN OF TERROR	NOT FAR OFF	NICE TO WIN
WINNING DOUBLE	NO GENTLEMAN	BIG BABY	BETTER OFF

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 7th.
Example_____
Bullet_____

Example_____
Bullet_____

(403) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.

Signed_____
Address_____

☞ If unable to secure extra coupons you can write your "Bullets" on plain paper.

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 7th
Example_____
Bullet_____

Example_____
Bullet_____

(408) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s.

Signed_____
Address_____

Envelopes should be marked "Bullets" No. 408, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 7th.
Example_____
Bullet_____

Example_____
Bullet_____

(408) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 3 Coupons send P.O. for 1s. 6d.

Signed_____
Address_____

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 7th.
Example_____
Bullet_____

Example_____
Bullet_____

(408) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 4 Coupons, send P.O for 2s.

Signed_____
Address_____

SELECTION OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 408.

LLOYD GEORGE—HOW TO COLLECT INDEMNITY—WRIGGLING—WON'T DO FOR ME—MOTHER AND FATHER—PARIS FASHIONS—WHERE THERE'S A WILL—WEDDING MARCH—STATE OF ENGLAND—PERFECT GENTLEMAN—ONE OF THE BEST—TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR—WOMAN OF TO-DAY—DON'T YOU BELIEVE IT—MAKES ME SICK—THE LITTLE ONES—SOCIALISM—THE NEXT TAX—LAUGHTER AND TEARS—EVERYBODY'S FAVOURITE.

These examples can be made use of on the Coupon above, and must reach us on or before **Thursday, April 21st** All Coupons so used **MUST** be marked clearly with the number 409 in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these Coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. 409, JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Thirty-two Examples for Competition 408.

List of Ten-Shilling Prizewinners in "Bullets" Competition 403 will be published in next week's "Competitor's Journal." Complete List of all Cash and other Prizewinners can be seen at the offices of "John Bull."

Result of 406th 'Bullets' Competition

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:

Mr. THOS. TYSON,
219, Greystone Road, Carlisle.
Example :—IN THE JURY-BOX.
Bullet :—NOT "KNITTING," BUT "UNRAVELLING."

SECOND PRIZE OF £20:

Mr. J. FINNEY
(Staff), Severalls Hospital, Near Colchester, Essex.
Example :—GOING TO CHURCH.
Bullet :—COPPERS—SILVER TO CINEMA.

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:

Miss CONNIE HARSON, 23, Westshops, Halifax.
Example :—A FAT FIGURE.
Bullet :—CERTAINLY DOESN'T IMPROVE BOXING.

10 Prizes of £5 each:

Mr. J. CLYDE, 16, Woodfield Terrace, Thornwood Near Epping.
SHOWING FIGHT—GERMANY—BUT TOWEL HANDY.
Mr. J. T. INETT, 1, Chapel Street, Devonport.
GOING TO CHURCH—"FORCED MARCH" TOMMY DISLIKES.
Mr. A. BIRCH, Lloyds Bank, Fleet, Hants.
MAKING GERMANY PAY—"COLLECT" THE CRIMINALS AFTERWARDS.
Mr. F. J. NORTON, 67, Brookfield Avenue, Walthamstow, London, E.17.
GOING TO COUNTRY—OF ORIGIN, MAILED FIST.
Mr. W. SAMPSON, 3, Blandy Terrace, Cwm, Nantymoel, Bridgend, Glam.
CAN'T BE IMPROVED—OCEAN AS A FRONTIER.
Mr. E. TURNER, 7, Cardiff Street, Carlton Road, Nottingham.
MAKING GERMANY PAY—AND WE'LL "LOOK PLEASANT."
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon).
Mr. J. N. BLAKER, 518, Woodboro' Road, Nottingham.
WHAT BOTTOMLEY STANDS FOR—CHRISTIANITY WITHOUT THE FRILLS.
Mr. D. BENNETT, 76, Newhaven Road, Leith.
HAND OVER FIST—TEACHING GERMANY TO SIGN.
Miss F. J. CHRISTIE, 24, Fore Hamlet, Ipswich.
WHAT PREMIER PROMISES—RUBBED IN THEN OUT.
Mr. L. HILL, 60, Cranmer Road, Forest Gate, London.
STAGE FRIGHT—"ONE STEP" THEN "HESITATION."

10 Prizes of £2 10s. each:

Mr. H. W. GARDINER, 64, Eign Street, Hereford.
NEVER AT A LOSS—PLEASING THE BIGGEST CROWD.
Mr. E. W. MORGAN, 16, Baronsfield Road, St. Margarets, Twickenham.
WELL SPENT—DAY WE OCCUPIED DUSSELDORF.
Mr. E. J. HARRIS, 13, Fitzroy Road, Fishponds, Bristol.
MAKING GERMANY PAY—PREVENTS CLAWS GROWING AGAIN.
Mr. J. F. McGEE, Cribden House, Haslingden, Lancs.
DAME FASHION—"OTHER WOMAN" WIFE WELCOMES.
Mr. W. MALCOLM, 8, Palmerston Avenue, Whalley Range, Manchester.
HAND OVER FIST—EXPENSES ARE OVERTAKING PROFITS.
Miss F. WINSTANLEY, 32, Compton Avenue, Brighton.
A BIG ROW—AND PRETTY DRESSES—REVUE.
Mr. T. F. PRICE, Hawthorn, Caeracca, Dowlais, Glam.
PERFECT LADY—"FIGURED" ON JACK'S ARM.
Mr. J. CREASEY, Vulcans Lane, Workington.
MIGHT BE WORSE—AND SHOULD BE—INDEMNITY.
Mr. T. H. HUGHES, 165, King's Road, Harrogate.
A STRUGGLE—TAXPAYER "FINDING EVERYTHING."
Mr. D. GILMORE, 7, Chichester Road, Kilburn, London.
MAKING GERMANY PAY—"SUMMONING THEM" IS USELESS.

BULLETS RULES. 1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. All four coupons may be used, and a postal order enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of, which must be made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.
4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned.
5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.
6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

RESULT OF OUR TWENTIETH FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

In the above competition no competitor succeeded in sending a coupon containing the correct results of the 14 matches played on March 12th. The following three Competitors each sent a coupon with 13 correct results and, therefore, divide the prize of £1,500, each receiving the sum of £500 :—

Mrs. D. CARMICHAEL, 11, Rowchester Street, Glasgow.

E. MARTIN, 44, Selvage Street, Rosyth.

J. MACBETH, 33, Langthorn Street, Fulham, London, S.W.

THE JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex.
The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. We offer it to you absolutely free.

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal Representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published from time to time.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to ..	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks..	£1 per week

ORDER FORM
To be Retained by Newsagent

To.....Newsagent.

Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice.

Signed.....

Address.....

April 2, 1921.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept. 63, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM
Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

.....Newsagent, of

.....

and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee.....

Address.....

Signature of Insured.....

(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Home Address.....

April 2, 1921.

I remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 4d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

World's Record Football Offer!

£2,000 for ONLY TEN RESULTS

MUST BE WON! TWO THOUSAND POUNDS For a Correct or Nearest Correct Forecast of ONLY TEN RESULTS!

THIS COMPETITION IS EXCLUSIVE TO "JOHN BULL."

Coupons are not published in various other papers. If you want to win the £2,000 prize

YOU CAN ONLY USE COUPONS TAKEN FROM THIS PAPER.

THE sum of £2,000 will be paid to the sender of a coupon containing the correct results of the 10 matches given. If 10 correct results are not given, the £2,000 will be awarded to the sender of the most correct results, so that in any event the £2,000 **MUST BE WON.** We would advise competitors to make a careful study of football form before filling in their coupons. **Scottish and Irish readers can compete.** Competitors may send in as many coupons as they like.

NO ENTRANCE FEE! NO GOALS REQUIRED!

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

(1) All attempts must be made on coupons taken from the issues of JOHN BULL announcing this Competition. Coupons must be completely filled in with ink in ordinary handwriting (typewriting or pencil will not be allowed) and in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

(2) The sum of £2,000 (two thousand pounds) will be paid to the competitor sending a coupon containing the correct results of all the matches played to a finish. If no competitor succeeds in giving all the correct results, the sum of £2,000 will be paid to the competitor sending a coupon with the most correct results. In the event of a tie or ties, the prize to be won will be equally divided amongst the most successful competitors. No competitor can receiv more than one share of the £2,000. Should any match not be played to a finish on the date given, or as set out on the coupon, it will be disregarded.

(3) Ten crosses in all must be marked on each coupon, one for each match. Coupons marked otherwise will be disqualified.

(4) No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into, nor will interviews be granted.

(5) Any coupon on which an alteration of any kind has been made will be disqualified. Any coupon received later than April 21st, will be disqualified.

(6) The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this Competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

HOW TO FILL UP YOUR COUPONS.

If you think the "Home" team will win, place a X in the column headed "Home"; if you think the "Away" team will win, place a X in the column headed "Away"; if you think the result will be a draw, place a X in the column headed "Draw." **Only one X must be entered for each match.** Coupons must be completely filled up in ink.

Cut out Coupon neatly, and address all entries as follows: **Football Competition No. 22, "JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.** Write "Football" in top left-hand corner of envelope. All coupons can be enclosed in one envelope, but this must not contain entries for other Competitions.

COMPETITORS MAY SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS THEY LIKE.

THE RESULT OF OUR TWENTIETH FOOTBALL COMPETITION APPEARS ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE.

"JOHN BULL" FREE FOOTBALL COUPON.

CLOSING DATE, THURSDAY, APRIL 21st.

MATCHES TO BE PLAYED SATURDAY, APRIL 23rd.

Home Team		Away Team	Home	Away	Draw
Everton	v.	Burnley			
Arsenal	v.	Newcastle United			
Derby County	v.	Aston Villa			
Bolton Wan.	v.	Liverpool			
Fulham	v.	South Shields			
Sheffield W.	v.	Bury			
Stoke	v.	Bristol City			
Brentford	v.	Merthyr Town			
Brighton & H.A.	v.	Watford			
Queen's P. R.	v.	Swindon.			

☞ **Coupons must be cut—not torn out.**

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions on this page and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding and enter on that understanding.

(22) SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

£6 6s.; all wool, indigo dyed, London shrunk blue serge suit to measure for ... £3 10s.

officially certified all wool; the greatest value ever offered either since or before the war; we guarantee satisfaction from self-measures or refund cash without question if you disapprove of goods for any reason whatever.—Call or write for free patterns, measure chart, fashion booklet, etc., S. A. Barry and Co., 16, City Road, London, E.C.

INJUDICIOUS EATING.

Many people have themselves to blame for the fact that they are victims of indigestion, for the trouble is usually brought on either through over-eating, an unsuitable diet, or faulty mastication.

Very few people give to the matter of diet the attention it deserves. Flatulence, the sickening water-brash and stabbing pains in the chest are among the symptoms that dyspeptics know so well.

When the trouble becomes chronic, victims sometimes fly to pre-digested foods, or purgatives. Though such things may bring temporary relief, they do not go to the actual seat of the trouble.

To eliminate indigestion we must get at the cause. Like all other organs of the body, the stomach calls upon the blood for nourishment, and if the blood is poor and thin, it calls in vain. Indigestion soon results. Build up the system, maintain a supply of pure rich blood, and you get to the root of the trouble.

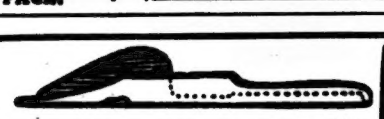
That is why Dr. Williams' pink pills have proved successful in so many cases of indigestion and stomach trouble. They combat the poisons in the blood, purify and enrich it, and so enable it to restore the digestive organs to health and strength.

You, too, can improve your digestion by beginning Dr. Williams' pink pills now. Any dealer can supply; or from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 36, Fitzroy Square, London, W.1.

FREE.—The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co. has issued a free book, "What to Eat," that gives just the information you want regarding your diet; send a post card to Offer Dept., 6, Fitzroy Square, London, W.1, for a copy.

FREE

TO ALL WHO FILL IN COMPETITION COUPONS.



The "KUPON" Pen is specially made to write on Coupon paper. It does not spurt or blot, and with the special Duct attachment you can write for 15 minutes with one dip in the ink. Can be fitted into any penholder, and turns any ordinary pen into a Fountain Pen. They are sold at 6d. per set (pen, nib and duct), or 3 sets for 1/- **Send Postcard for Free Sample.**

Address—KUPON PEN COMPANY, 2, Wine Office Court, Fleet St., London, E.C.4.

GRAVES OF SHEFFIELD

Write for patterns, post free, of Overcoats, Suits, Costumes, Paletots, Raincoats, Mackintoshes etc., or Catalogues of Footwear, Wool Scarfs, Drapery, Ladies' and Children's Clothing, Sheffield Cutlery, Gramophones and Records, Tea and Dinner Services, Bedsteads, Bedding, Sewing Machines, Cycles, Trunks, Carpets and Linos, Poultry & Appliances, etc. Grand values. EASY TERMS. J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD.

WELL GROOMED MEN who prefer that their hair should always be in keeping with their general appearance will tell you that the secret lies in the

DOUGLAS PRUNER.

PRICE 5/6 POST FREE

Complete with spare blade.

Cut or trim your hair to your liking at home—even the novice is sure of success—there are no delicate parts to wear out, and its construction, although simple, is perfectly sound. There are over 60,000 satisfied users, yet, if you doubt its merits, send your 5/6 and have the Pruner on *7 days'* free trial; then, if not completely satisfied, return the Pruner and we will refund your money.

SIMPLY COMB YOUR HAIR.

The Douglas Pruner will cut any hair equally well, whether soft, curly, or coarse. Why not send for one TO-DAY?

NEW BLADES FOR OLD! Don't throw away those old Safety Razor Blades; make them as keen as new ones by using our patent

MONKEY ROTARY STROP.

Slip in the blade and in a few turns of the handle both sides of the edge are sharpened perfectly. The strop will sharpen *any make* of blade, and will last for years. Don't measure its value by the price.

Send to-day on the same terms as the Pruner above and test its worth.

10/6 will bring you *both* articles, post free. *Trade inquiries invited.*

Price 5/6 Post Free. **DOUGLAS KIRBY & CO.** (Dept. J.B.) Gloucester, England.

YOUR BIG WORRIES

grow smaller when others share them.

Make Insurance your friend in need by writing to us to-day for particulars of how to secure the future happiness and security of the home.

The CITY LIFE ASSURANCE CO., Ltd.

6, Paul Street, Finsbury, LONDON, E.C.2.

Managing Director, LEONARD ALDRIDGE

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA Friendly Society. Est. 1843.

Profits Divided amongst the Policy Holders.

Claims Paid £15,750,000
Invested Funds... £9,000,000
Annual Income... £3,500,000

All our Branch Offices and Agents transact National Health Insurance. ARTHUR HENRI, Secretary. Chief Office: ST. ANDREW ST., LONDON, E.C.4.

THE "JOHN BULL" GUARANTEE.—*We guarantee the goods advertised by every firm whose trade announcement appears in* JOHN BULL, *i.e., we hold ourselves responsible for their being of the quality and standard represented at the time of purchase and the date of payment, either in full or by instalments, and, if any reader can show just cause for dissatisfaction with the purchase of any goods made through any trade advertisement in our columns, we will refund the purchase-money, provided the goods complained of are sent to us within one week from the date of original purchase. All communications should be addressed to* JOHN BULL, *Advertisement Department, 92, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.*

The British Remedy.

Owbridge's Lung Tonic

for

COUGHS & COLDS

Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.

Prepared by
W. T. OWBRIDGE, Ltd.,
Manufacturers, The Laboratory, HULL.
Established 1870.

Baby Wasted and Helpless

Could Not Move a Finger, and Thought to be dying—Cured by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Baby Rogers.

Mrs. C. Rogers, 89, George Street, Pontypool, Mon., says: "Dr. Cassell's Tablets have worked almost a miracle in curing my little boy of infantile paralysis and wasting, when I certainly thought he was going to die. He was only 14 months old when the trouble came on and very soon he was helpless from head to foot. He could not move a muscle. Then he began to waste away with diarrhœa, till he was nothing but skin and bone. He actually went blind, he was so weak and wasted, and for quite five months he could not see at all. Really he was a dying child, ill in every way, and looked just like a wax doll. I did everything possible, but there seemed no hope. One day, however, I chanced to read about Dr. Cassell's Tablets, and started giving them to Fred. Shortly after, he began to move slightly. From then on he began to move rapidly, and soon was able to run about. Now he is two years and a-half old, just full of health and activity, and as plump as a little dumpling."

Dr. Cassell's Tablets

The Universal Home Remedy for

Nervous Breakdown
Nerve Failure
Neuritis
Neurasthenia
Sleeplessness
Anæmia
Kidney Trouble
Indigestion
Worry
Vital Exhaustion
Palpitation
Nervous ess

Specially valuable for Nursing Mothers and during the Critical Periods of Life.

HOME PRICES:
1/3 and 3/-
(the 3/- size being the more economical).
Sold by Chemists in all parts of the world.
Ask for Dr. Cassell's Tablets, and refuse substitutes.

TAKE TWO TABLETS
at bedtime and note how well you sleep; continue and you will know the joy of health and vigour.
Equally Suitable For Children.

I TOOK CICFA for my INDIGESTION

(in Stomach & Bowel)

"Now I eat whatever I desire."

"I wish all Indigestion Sufferers to know that every word I say is true."

READ THE EXPLANATION.

If you are suffering from Indigestion, whatever the cause may be, you are likely to think that a remedy which cures others may not suit your case because you think yours is different, and your symptoms may be different; but the root causes of all cases of uncomplicated Indigestion are always the same, that is, there is not enough of the Digestive Ferments which Nature must have to digest the Albuminous food in the Stomach and also to digest the Starchy food in the Bowel.

Without these Digestive Ferments one person will suffer with Heartburn, Wind, and Gas-Rising, White-coated Tongue, Sharp Headache, Blotched Complexion, Red Nose, Flushed Face, etc., while another will suffer from Flatulence, Bilious Symptoms, caused by obstructed Bile Circulation, Acidity with teeth on edge, and attacks of Gout and Rheumatism, and Constipation with all the misery which it causes; but whether you have some or all of these symptoms YOU CAN BE PERFECTLY CURED ONLY BY A REMEDY WHICH SUPPLIES NATURE'S DIGESTIVE FERMENTS. With those ferments Digestion is restored and THOSE FERMENTS ARE ACTIVE WHEN CICFA IS TAKEN.

Mr. David realises these facts, and having known the sufferings from indigestion, and the joy of health, with the pleasure of eating what he pleases, he wish all sufferers to know that Cicfa cured him, and that his words are true.

NOW READ MR. DAVID'S WORDS:

3, Fentiman Road,
Tulse Hill Park, S.

"Dear Sirs,

Some time ago I wrote to you for a sample of your Indigestion remedy, Cicfa. The sample gave me such [illegible] after [illegible] I had been suffering with Indigestion for about 2½ years, and had tried several other remedies, but I found them all failures. Then I took Cicfa, and found it necessary to take only three or four tubes, and I was and am now able to eat whatever I desire. I think honestly that Cicfa is most wonderful, and deserves the highest praise. I always strongly recommend it to any of my friends that I find are afflicted with Indigestion. I really cannot find words to express my gratitude nor my pleasure at having found a remedy which really removes Indigestion as Cicfa has removed mine. I only hope that if you publish this letter those sufferers from Indigestion who read it will believe that every word I say is true, and will immediately take Cicfa, the only certain remedy. Thanking you for my present health, and for being able to enjoy life again,
—Yours truly, F. L. DAVID."

18,000 BRITISH DOCTORS

have taken up Cicfa. Hundreds of them have written us of the splendid results which they have obtained by its use upon themselves, in their families, and in practice. When thousands of British doctors are satisfied with Cicfa, you do not need a sample with which to test it. There can be no better proof. You can purchase Cicfa and commence using it immediately.

Sold everywhere; prices 1/3 & 3/-

THE CICFA COMPANY,
8, Duke St., Manchester Sq., London, W.

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HAVANA
BLEND
Cigarettes

Have the sweet nuttiness and fine flavour of a good Havana Cigar.

20 for 1/-
of all Tobacconists.

S. Morris & Sons, Ltd., London.

JOIN THE RANKS! of "J.B." Pen Users. See page 18.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXIX. No. 775. SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1921. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

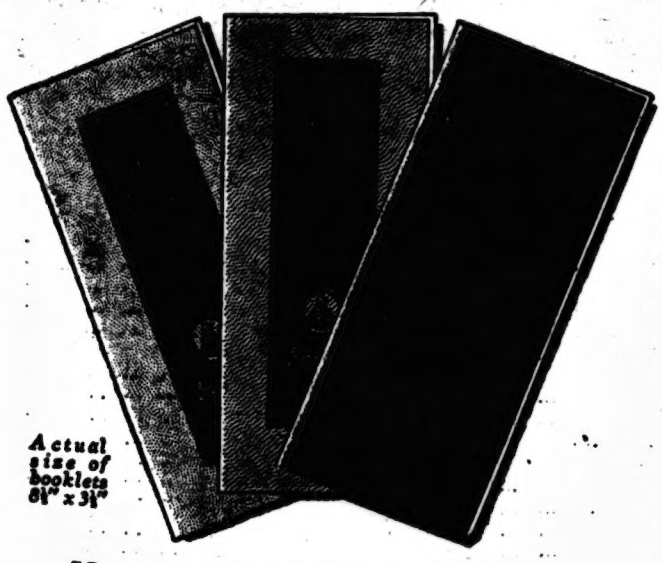
Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

SHELL is the ONLY MOTOR SPIRIT sold to dealers in bulk with the stipulation that it shall be stored and retailed separately, not mixed with petrol of any other brand or grade.

SHELL

HOW TO SETTLE THE STRIKE

BY HORATIO BOTTOMLEY



Actual size of booklets 8¼" x 3¼"

How to feed your Children from 9 months to 15 years of age

The latest Glaxo "Mother-Help" Idea.

IF you are ever worried about what to give the children "for a change"—if sometimes you are in doubt whether so-and-so "is good for them"—you will be delighted with the new series of Glaxo Dietary Books for Children from 9 months to 15 years of age.

These little books are not only guides to correct dietary, but give a large number of tested recipes for nutritious and suitable dishes of all kinds.

You will be glad, too (especially if you have already availed yourself of the services of the Glaxo Mothers' Help Bureau), to know that the Glaxo Cookery and Dietary Department will always be ready to advise you on matters of dietary, free of charge.

Butter-fat (i.e., the fat contained in cream) is the ideal form of fat for children, and has characteristics not shared by other kinds of fat.

The vitamins associated with butter-fat are essential to growth in young children. Glaxo, which always contains over 25 % butter fat, rich in everything essential to proper growth and development, should take first place in the dietary of growing children. It can be given as a milk-drink, or in porridge, soups, milk-puddings, custards, blanc-manges, cocoa, bread-and-milk, etc.

Send for these progressive Dietary Books for Children of different ages.

THE latest development of the Glaxo Mothers' Help Bureau is the GLAXO COOKERY AND DIETARY DEPARTMENT. We have inaugurated this department in order that we may be in a position to give mothers really competent assistance in the feeding of their children after the nursing period is passed. This new series of Dietary Books deals with the feeding of children from 9 months to 15 years of age. We believe that mothers will find them of great value and real assistance.

THERE ARE THREE OF THESE CHILDREN'S DIETARY BOOKS

1. *For Age 9 months—18 months.*
2. *For Age 18 months—3 years.*
3. *For Age 3 years—15 years.*

Each Book includes: Introduction—Dietary Table for the Age dealt with—Special sections devoted to the Bilious Child, the Constipated, the Faddy—the Overgrown, the Under-nourished Child—Recipes for Beverages; Bread, Cakes, etc., Eggs; Groats and Porridge; Soups, Puddings and Sweets; Index.

GLAXO BOOK OF 160 RECIPES

For general use, but specially adapted to Children and Invalids.

The Glaxo Recipe Book contains over 160 carefully-tested recipes, which are not only suitable for everyday cookery but particularly useful to those who have to cater for young and growing children, invalids, dyspeptics and the aged. They are simple in character, and require no special or expensive cooking utensils.

"25 WAYS OF SERVING GLAXO WITHOUT THE ADDITION OF CEREALS"

A Special Recipe Book giving 25 ways of serving Glaxo without the addition of cereals, an absolutely invaluable booklet for sickroom dietary.

"WHAT IS GLAXO?"

A little book of "Questions and Answers," telling what Glaxo is, its advantages, its uses.

"The PROBLEM of our MILK SUPPLY"

by W. J. Melhuish, F.Phil.Soc., M.C.A. (Hon.).

This is an independent review by a chemist of all the forms of milk at present available.

Proprietors of Glaxo: Joseph Nathan & Co., Ltd., London and New Zealand.

Send this Coupon & 4d. stamps

to GLAXO (Dept. 36), 155 Great Portland St., London, W.1

for the Glaxo Recipe Books as follows:

(a) The Glaxo Recipe Book containing over 160 recipes for general use and specially suitable for children and invalids.

(b) A Booklet entitled "What is Glaxo?"

(c) A Booklet entitled "The Problem of our Milk Supply," by W. J. Melhuish, F.Phil.Soc., M.C.A. (Hon.).

(d) "25 Ways of Serving Glaxo without adding Cereals" (especially suitable for Invalids) *or* any *one* of the three Special Children's Dietary Books mentioned below

Please mark in circle which of the booklets (d) you require.

○ Dietary Book for child aged 9 to 18 months. ○ Dietary Book for child aged 3 years to 15 years

○ Dietary Book for child aged 18 months to 3 years. ○ "25 Ways of Serving Glaxo without adding Cereals."

NOTE: If MORE THAN ONE of the above books is required, mark accordingly and enclose 2d. stamp for each extra book required.

Name .....

Address .....

Town .....

County .....

The British Remedy.

Owbridge's Lung Tonic

for

COUGHS & COLDS

Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.

Prepared by
W. T. OWBRIDGE, Ltd.,
Manufacturers, The Laboratory, HULL.
Established 1870.

Baby Wasted and Helpless

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Neurasthenia	Vital Exhaustion
Sleeplessness	Palpitation
Anæmia	Nervous ess

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